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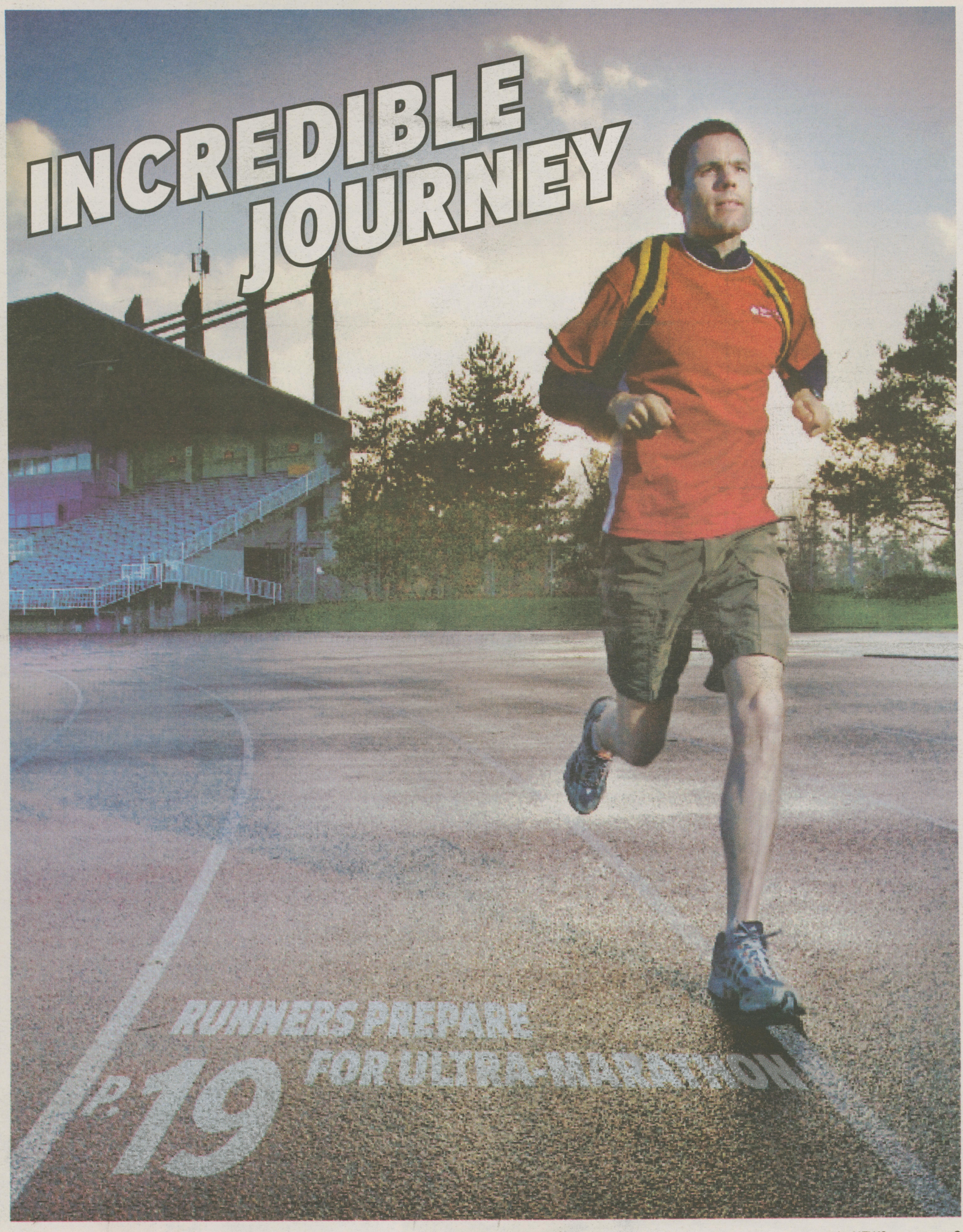
MARTLET

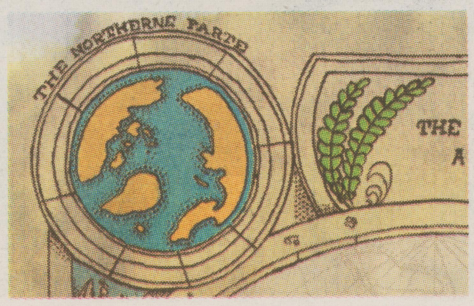
The University of Victoria's Independent Newspaper | www.martlet.ca
Volume 59, Issue 19 | Thursday, January 25, 2007 | Running in circles for 59 years

Electoral policy reformed 3
Discrimination on transit 9
The worst idea ever 13
Vikes coaches honoured 17



UVic could become smoke free 2

A new proposal before the UVSS could ban smoking on campus, except for within designated areas.



Growing up global 10

Within the world's immigrant population, a new subculture of youth has emerged: the global citizen.

NEWS 2
LIFE 7
OPINIONS 8
FEATURE 10
ARTS 12
SPORTS 16
CLASSIFIEDS 19
COMICS 20

New motion could ban smoking on campus

Smokers would have to use designated outdoor areas

by Carley Fortune

Smokers at the University of Victoria may soon find it much harder to purchase and smoke cigarettes on campus.

A motion to be voted upon at the Jan. 29 University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS) board meeting is calling for the UVSS to support banning smoking on campus except in designated areas in parking lots. The motion also calls for a ban on selling cigarettes on campus.

UVic's Tobacco Free Pro Health Club made a presentation to the board asking to support the motion at the Jan. 15 meeting.

The motion was put on hold so that board members could learn more about the proposal and how much money they make from tobacco sales in the SUB.

The presenters, Rob Obara and Kaitlin Richardson, said that the university administration will enforce the band if the UVSS gives its support.

But Erin Sikora, UVSS director-at-large, doesn't think that the motion is likely to pass.

"I think you're going to see a lot of abstentions, because that's been the overwhelming trend on this board ... when it comes to really controversial stuff," said Sikora, who is in favour of the ban but thinks the proposal needs work.

Both Dalhousie University and Acadia University have issued campus-wide bans on smoking. Wilfrid Laurier, Carleton and Lakehead Universities have designated areas on campus for smokers.

Carleton is the most recent university to prohibit smoking except for in special areas. It began its ban in August 2006.

Dalhousie has been an entirely smoke-free campus since 2003, but according to their website, exceptions are "made to accommodate the use of tobacco or related substances in connection with culturally significant celebrations."

One of the main areas of concern is how the ban could affect Felicita's Pub. On the pub's busy Wednesday nights, patrons aren't allowed to exit and re-enter because of the chance they'd consume alcohol outside.

Dale Robertson, the Student Union Building's business operations manager, said that there are "operation concerns" with the ban because staff can only "monitor how much [patrons are] consuming when they're inside."

He's afraid that customers would go out to parking lots to have a cigarette, down a mickey and come back inside "puking and causing problems."

According to Robertson, many of the customers at Felicita's are smokers.

The ban would also affect the UVSS's licenced events, such as the SUB party, where there are no in-and-out privileges.

"That is definitely something that we can work with them about if they have concerns," said Richardson, Tobacco Free Pro Health's vice-president, about concerns over banning smoking from Felicita's patio.

Students can purchase cigarettes at SUBtext and at a vending machine in Felicita's. The UVSS generates $19,000 in revenue from cigarettes sold in SUBtext.

Sikora, who's an ex-smoker, said that this money "isn't necessarily going to cut into too harshly into one budget."

The society makes $1 in commission on every pack sold in the pub's vending machine, which, according to Robertson, will earn them $2,250 by the end of the year. As part of the contract with the UVSS, the vending company recovers the pool table and provides six new cues and a set of balls every year, which Robertson said is valued at $1,000.

"Really, they're selling out the health of the students here," said Obara, who is the president of Tobacco Free Pro Health Club. "And if prohibiting the sale of tobacco would produce a long-term benefit down the road but the UVSS can't work with that ... we're willing to do whatever it takes to try to overcome that hurdle."

Obara and Richardson said that even a small amount of second-hand smoke is harmful, and that making cigarettes unavailable on campus would help people quit.

"The university has a legal responsibility to protect all the people on campus while they're on this campus," said Sikora. "I don't want to hate on smokers—it's the smoke."

According to Health Canada, 45,000 Canadians will die this year due to tobacco use, and at least 1,000 people will die from exposure to second-hand smoke.

MATTHEW GAUK PHOTO

The Tobacco Free Pro Health Club wants to ban the sale of cigarettes on campus and create smoking areas in parking lots.

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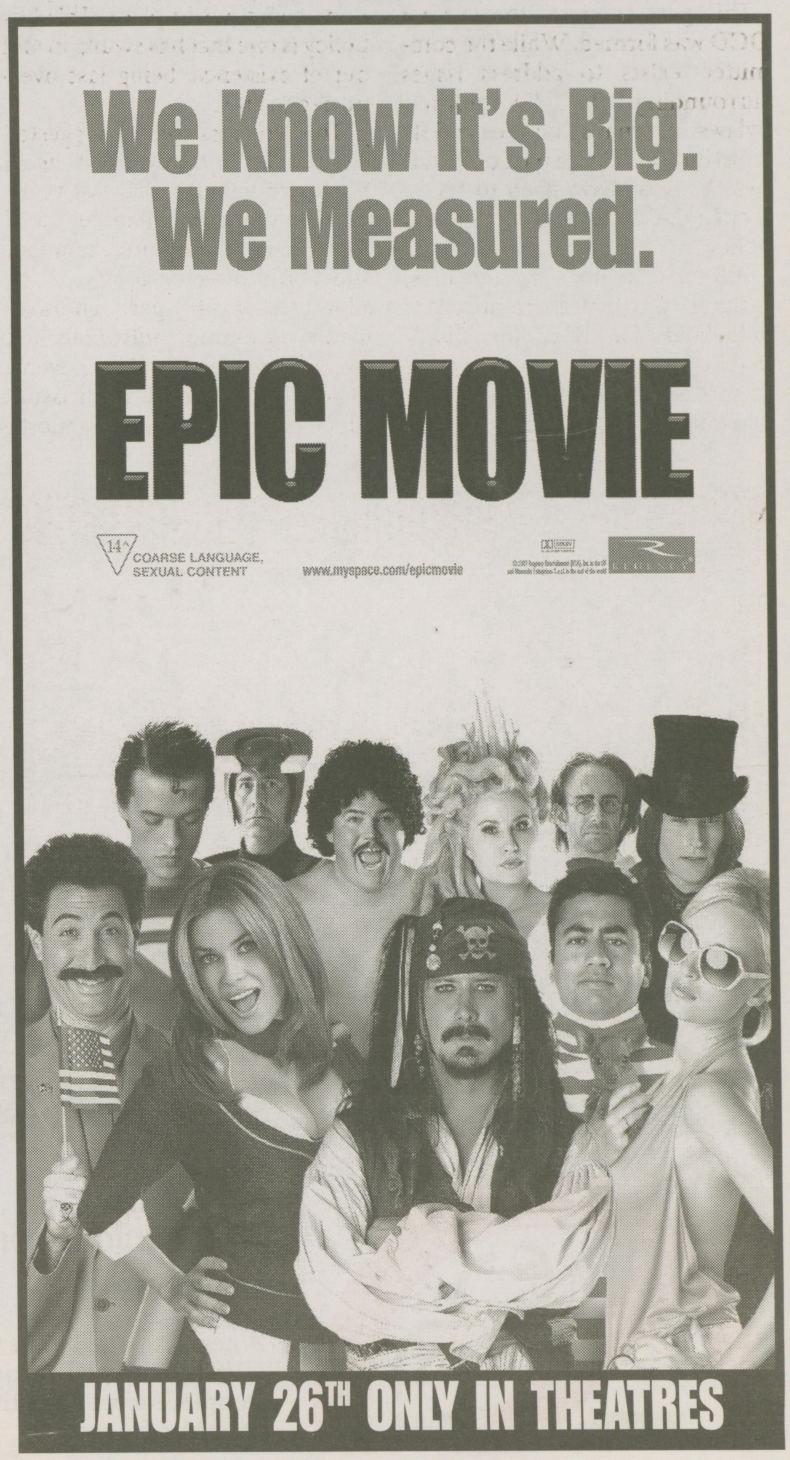


UVSS electoral policy reformed

Third-party endorsement now permitted and changes also made to liberalize policy on slate campaigning, section on preventing 'questionable disqualifications' forthcoming

by Kim Armstrong

The University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS) is rethinking its rules.

In light of the upcoming UVSS elections in March, as well as the controversy that surrounded last year's election process, the board has approved changes to its electoral policy that will hopefully help to fix some of the problems.

At the UVSS board meeting on Jan. 15, chairperson Penny Beames brought forth the proposed policy reforms, which were created by the Organizational Development Committee (OCD) she chairs.

"What we're doing is refining the electoral policy to try and fill some of the holes that we found last year," Beames said. "There's been a need to overhaul the ... policy for quite some time, and last year's election gave the committee this year the impetus to do it."

In last year's 2006-07 UVSS Board of Directors election, two of the three candidates for chair were disqualified for policy violation. Chairperson candidate Mike Waters was disqualified for receiving third-party endorsement, while then-candidate and incumbent Beames was disqualified for campaigning within sight of a polling station on election day.

Each candidate filed the complaint of a policy breach against the other. The issue was resolved after many board meetings, multiple director resignations and lawyer involvement.

This past summer, the current OCD was formed. While the committee exists to address issues surrounding all UVSS policies, bylaws, internal structures and its constitution, a large part of its duties this year have been to try to rectify the issues within electoral policy.

"A lot of it is things like timelines, making sure that there are clear guidelines for discipline, [and] making sure the language is clear so that more people have an understanding of how things work," said Beames.

WESLEY SCOTT PHOTO

UVSS Chairperson Penny Beames, on the left, helps make a sign for the upcoming Canadian Federation of Students' Day of Action on Feb. 7. Beames had a hand in the reform of election policy.

Significant changes include a more liberal policy on joint campaigning, or slates, and joint campaign materials. This allows candidates who are running together to advertise as a team, rather like the political parties of the Canadian electoral system.

Third-party endorsements are also now permitted, with regulations being put in place. This last policy is one that has swung in and out of existence, being last overturned in 2001.

"The changes were suggested and put through by those of us on the board who felt that last year's election was poorly handled," said Alex Chang, a committee member and UVSS director-at-large. "The allowance of third-party endorsement will permit individuals and campus groups to better voice their opinions regarding the issues which concern them, and endorse candidates which reflect those views."

Chang hopes that this will lead to greater involvement in UVSS elections and bring to light the concerns and issues of student groups that rely on UVSS support.

On the committee were Beames, the executive directors of the UVSS board and those directors-at-large and students who took an interest in the problem.

"All of the executives have had a hand in drafting policy," said Beames.

Jeremy David Peters, director of academics, and Jamie Strachan, director of finance, are both involved in organizational development.

Peters refused to comment on the committee because of a lack of knowledge on the topic, and Strachan did not appear for his scheduled interview.

More policy changes will be proposed at that board meeting. Beames said she would not be able to announce the proposed changes until the meeting convenes.

Chang said that the changes will involve the policy's new enforcement and discipline section.

"This new section should help prevent the questionable disqualifications which took place last year by making clear the consequences for any action which violates the rules during an election," said Chang.

How the new rules will play out is anybody's guess.

"Only time will tell when we have a new election how much of an effect those changes will have," Beames said.

All changes made will appear in the Jan. 15 meeting minutes, which will not be available until after their approval Jan. 29. The minutes can be viewed on the UVSS website.

NEWS BRIEFS

New elections chief

A chief electoral officer has been appointed to oversee the UVSS elections process. The position was offered to and accepted by Lindsay Bourque on Jan. 22.

Skynet comes alive

A $4.3-million grant from the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council will link UVic researchers to a powerful computer consortium that spans Western Canada and connects to a national network providing high performance resources to member institutions.

Current research ranges from simulating the Earth and its climate and probing the fundamental nature of matter and the structure of the universe to simulating fuel cell concepts for faster introduction of clean energy technologies and studying the computer grid itself.

Researchers at UVic will, in effect, gain 6,000 additional colleagues.

Common Energy kicks off

UVic climatologist Andrew Weaver spoke to a packed auditorium on Jan. 16 and enlightened the masses on the science and politics of global warming.

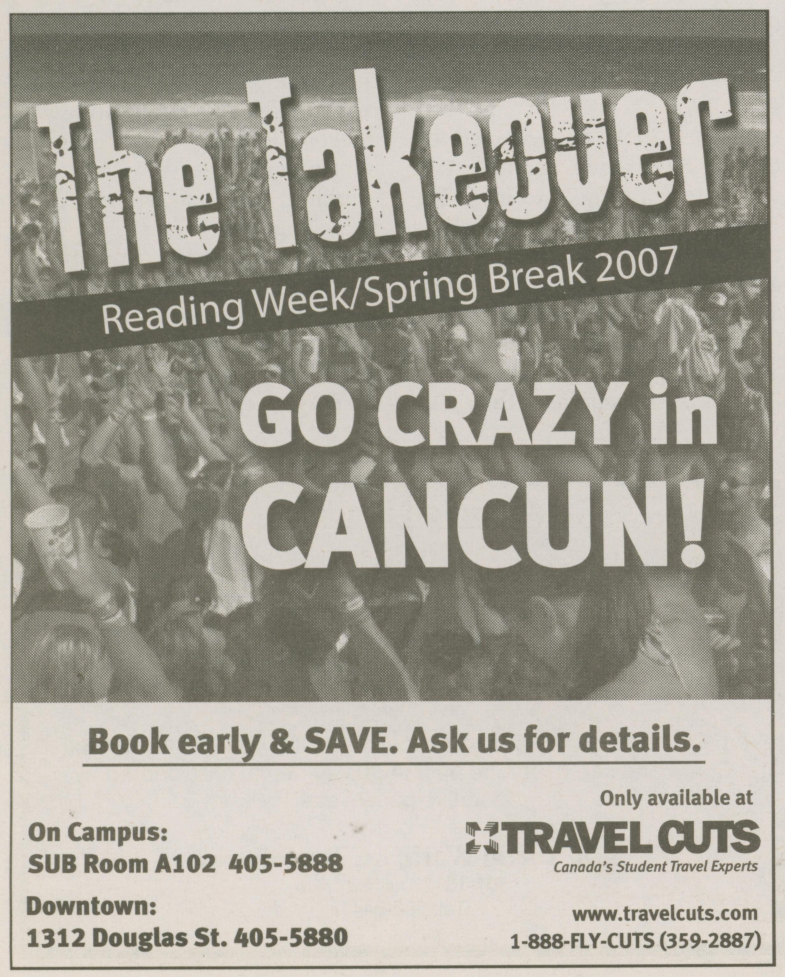
Weaver criticized the mainstream media's approach to climate change, emphasizing that many journalists believe they have to present "both sides" of the argument even when there is no longer any debate over the existence of global warming.

Weaver noted that governments do have a history of action on global environmental emergencies, which gives hope for the future.

The event was the first of a three-part lecture series, hosted by Common Energy, a UVic-based group of students, faculty and community partners including former environmental minister David Anderson, which seeks to create local solutions to climate change.

Saving the Bear

The federal Conservatives have committed $30 million to protect the Great Bear Rainforest and to create employment there.



Free coffee mug and debt up to your eyeballs

Students building bad credit may not know about alternatives

by Laura Cameron

The Bank of America-owned MBNA Corporation, the UVic Alumni Association and the University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS) are all making money from interest collected on student credit card debt.

The three-party contract with the MBNA Corporation, an independent credit card issuer, allows the company to set up tables in the SUB and hand out incentives for UVic "affinity" credit cards.

In return, the UVSS and the Alumni Association receive a fraction of the revenue made from the UVic-endorsed credit cards (the exact percentage is classified).

Research done by the Canadian Millennium Scholarship Foundation (CMSF) shows that student debt is above average in B.C., but increases in credit card debt suggest that the demand for government financial aid is still not being met.

The MBNA Corporation has contracts with 27 Canadian universities, including UVic. The starting interest rate for an MBNA card is 16.9 per cent and there is up to a $100,000 limit. Marne Jensen, general manager of the UVSS, said the society receives about $18,000 a year from the contract. This money goes to cleaning and maintenance of the SUB.

Jensen said she does not believe that the university is promoting the credit cards or encouraging student debt.

The UVSS hasn't received any complaints, but some alumni have voiced their concerns that their names and addresses were given to MBNA. The Alumni Association said they have only authorized MBNA to use this information for mail-out offers.

"Most students aren't aware of the repercussions of signing up," said Tiffany, a student who asked that her last name not be used. She received a mug last year when she signed up for an MBNA card.

"It could or could not contribute to student debt depending on awareness. Some students don't know that it affects your credit score."

The CMSF study states that Canadian credit card debt grew by 90 per cent between 1997 and 2001. In 2001, 40 per cent of students were carrying debt on their credit cards. Twenty four per cent of these students owed up to $500 and 19 per cent owed over $2,500.

When asked about above-average student debt in B.C., Victoria Thibeau, the manager of B.C. Student Loans in the Student Services Branch of the Ministry of Advanced Education, said that tuition rates are middle-of-the-road in B.C., but that the cost of living is generally higher than in other provinces.

In 2006, 59 per cent of Canadian students graduated with debt averaging $24,047. One third of students borrowed from government loan programs and 39 per cent of student debt, up from 31 per cent in 2003, came from financial institutions and family. This indicates that there is a need for loans that is not being fulfilled by the government.

The average debt of Canadian students has stabilized since 2000. Prior to that time, it had nearly doubled since the 1990s.

Recent changes to the Canada Student Loans Program will qualify more middle-income students for financial assistance and increase the amount available to low-income students. As a result, debt will rise in both the proportion of students that has a loan and the average amount that they owe.

Other government initiatives include the Millennium Access Bursary.

"There is a group of students who are traditionally debt averse. The problem becomes how to entice students to go to post-secondary," Thibeau said. The bursary is an upfront grant provided to low-income students to encourage them to enroll in post-secondary institutions.

There is evidence that debt is having a negative affect on students. The study done by Millennium, entitled "The Price of Knowledge," found a correlation between the amount of debt that a student is carrying and the likelihood of that students dropping out of school.

According to Millennium, one quarter to one third of the students who do graduate with debt default during repayment. Twenty seven per cent of students who graduated in 2000 reported having trouble repaying their loans.

One problem that causes students to default on their loans is a lack of awareness of government programs that assist graduates who are struggling under debt. The Canadian government will defer payments during times of underemployment and, in dire situations, it will reduce a graduate's outstanding balance.

> "Most students aren't aware of the repercussions of signing up.... It could or could not contribute to student debt depending on awareness."

Forty seven per cent of 2001 and 2002 Ontario graduates would have qualified for these kinds of assistance, but only one third of them participated in the programs.

Another important resource for students is the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada, an independent government agency that publishes the fees, features, interest rates and reward programs for nearly 200 credit cards. This is one resource that can help students to choose a card that is appropriate for them and avoid collecting debt that has to be paid back at high interest rates.

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Muslim prayer room vandalized

Second incident at UBC since October

by Jesse Ferreras

VANCOUVER (CUP) — A space designated for prayer by the University of British Columbia's Muslim community was vandalized for the second time since October.

A press release from the Muslim Students' Association (MSA) stated that an unidentified, foul-smelling brown stain was found in the middle of the room on Jan. 12 at approximately 4 p.m. by regular users of the Musalla (Muslim prayer room).

MSA president Hesham Alsalman said that a regular user of the room saw an individual leaving hastily with a hood pulled over their head. The witness noticed that the individual had their shoes on, which Alsalman said was unusual because it is customary to remove one's shoes while in the Musalla.

Another incident occurred on Oct. 2, 2006, when a similar stain was found in the Musalla. The RCMP concluded at the time that it was an accident. The MSA agreed because symbolic furniture in the room, such as a large Qur'an, remained untouched.

"We didn't believe, ourselves—the MSA executives—that this is a hate crime until it happened again," said Alsalman. When asked whether he felt the incident was a hate crime, he said, "Most likely, yes. Why did it happen twice?"

The university detachment of the RCMP was contacted on Saturday about the incident, Alsalman said, but there was no record of the incident at the office itself. Constable Keith Simpson was the RCMP contact but was off-duty at press time and could not be reached.

"If something happened at the Muslim prayer room, there's been no complaint about it," said Staff Sergeant Kevin Kenna.

Brian Sullivan, a university vice-president, described the incident as a sick expression of displeasure.

"There was an incident in October that was [dealt] with to everyone's satisfaction at the time, though it was, even then, quite troubling," he said, "but now, with a second incident, things continue to change."

Sullivan said that the MSA has been engaged in discussions of ways to improve security around the Musalla, particularly a "more potent locking mechanism."

The Musalla has been temporarily relocated to another room until the carpets can be shampooed.

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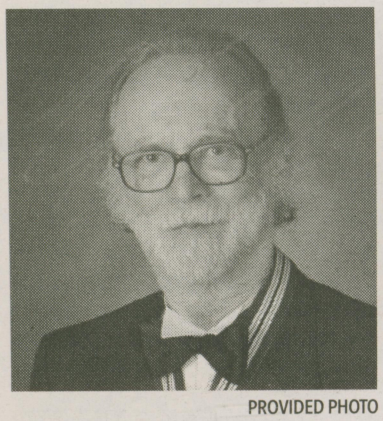
UVic's homegrown greats

by Kim Magi

Of the 3,000 plus undergraduate and graduate students UVic churns out annually, a handful of graduates have made contributions to society that cannot go unnoticed. Individuals such as W.P Kinsella, Stewart Butterfield and the Honourable Gary Lunn leave students with a sense of community pride and a goal of accomplishment to which they, too, can aspire.

W.P. Kinsella



PROVIDED PHOTO

After graduating from UVic in 1974 with a bachelor of arts in English, W.P. Kinsella went on to write the novel *Shoeless Joe*, upon which the 1989 film *Field of Dreams* was based. His short story *Lieberman in Love* was made into a film that won the Academy Award for Live Action Short Film in 1995. Kinsella, watching the Oscars from home, had no idea his story had been made into a movie, let alone one that had been nominated for an Academy Award. An apology was eventually made to Kinsella via a full-page advertisement in *Variety* magazine. Kinsella now writes a weekly column in *The Province*.

The Honourable Rona Ambrose

PROVIDED PHOTO

Not only is Rona Ambrose the president of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, but she is also the current minister of intergovernmental affairs and the minister of western economic diversification. She has a bachelor of arts from UVic and can speak Spanish, Portuguese and intermediate French. Currently living in Edmonton, Ambrose is an avid volunteer, particularly for the Edmonton Women's Shelter.

Stewart Butterfield

PROVIDED PHOTO

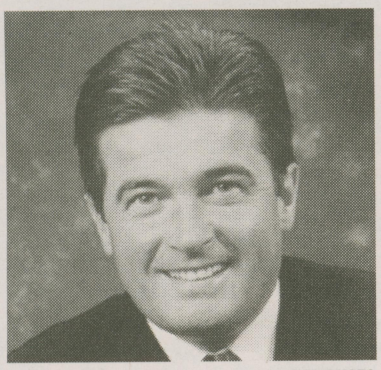
You may have never heard his name, but as the co-founder of photo hosting website Flickr and Yahoo's director of product management, it's a safe bet that you've seen one of the 130 million photos hosted by the brainchild of Stewart Butterfield and his wife, Caterina Fake. With a bachelor of arts in philosophy, Butterfield, along with Fake, was named to *Time Magazine*'s 2006 list of the world's most influential people. Not bad for a 33-year-old.

Alison Sydor

PROVIDED PHOTO

In 1987, Alison Sydor proved herself an accomplished athlete when she won gold at the Western Canadian Games. After completing her bachelor of science in 1989, Sydor continued to compete competitively and turned pro as a mountain biker in 1993. Since then, she has won three world championship titles, a gold medal in the 1995 Pan American Games and a silver medal at the Olympics in 1996. Sydor is currently living in Victoria, riding for the Rocky Mountain Crystal Decisions Race Team.

The Honourable Gary Lunn



PROVIDED PHOTO

Now the minister of natural resources, Gary Lunn has worked his way up in politics ever since he graduated from UVic with a bachelor of law degree. A member of the House of Commons since 1997, Lunn has served as critic for northern development, Métis and non-status Indians, human resources development, international trade, national revenue, fisheries and oceans and, most recently, for public works and government services and for the Privy Council. Staying local, Lunn now lives in Sidney with his wife, Alexis, and two children.

Lauren Woolstencroft

PROVIDED PHOTO

A more recent UVic graduate, Lauren Woolstencroft completed her bachelor of engineering degree in electrical engineering in 2005. Woolstencroft was born missing both her legs below the knees and her left arm below the elbow. At age four, she tried skiing, and at age 14, she joined the Alberta Disabled Ski Team. To date, she has four world championship titles and four Paralympic medals (two gold, two silver), is the recipient of the Top Female Athlete of the 2002 Winter Paralympic Games and has won over 50 medals from other competitions.

Gareth Rees

PROVIDED PHOTO

He is known as "Canada's gift to rugby," and while he's been representing Canada at the Rugby World Cup since the age of 18, Gareth Rees also managed to complete a bachelor of arts in history, graduating from UVic in 1991. Now a rugby coach and history teacher at the Eton School in Windsor, England, Rees has also played professional rugby in Europe and represented Canada as team captain in four Rugby World Cups.

Julie Wafaei

PROVIDED PHOTO

After completing two undergraduate degrees with honours (biology and psychology) from McMaster University, Wafaei came out West to complete her master of science degree in molecular biology, which she earned in 2001. She followed and completed her dream of being the first (and only) woman to row across the Atlantic Ocean. Through her adventures with fiancé Colin Angus, Wafaei has visited over 30 countries (and cycled 15,000 kilometres through a majority of them) and completed the first descent of the Yenisey River, the world's fifth largest river. In 2006, both she and Angus were named the National Geographic Adventurers of the Year for their two-year human-powered circumnavigation of the word.

COMMON SENSE INFORMATION FROM COMPUTER TECHS

Electronic Survival in the Online age...

As with almost everything these days, an electronic variant of what used to be printed on a weekly or even daily schedule is available online. While some things are much easier to look up in the good ol' phonebook, a vast variety have been converted onto the Internet. Hey, you're on campus and I know everyone has access to the information superhighway so here's a list to assist you with your everyday student needs:

Leaving campus?
http://www.bctransit.com/
The bus schedule is online.

Coming back a little late?
http://www.empresstaxi.com/
You can email your cab pickup time even up to a year in advance can't finish your masters degree in a year can you?

Not leaving campus?
http://www.cinecenta.com/ Show times and shows arranged in a monthly format don't forget your student id card!

Looking for something live?
http://www.livevictoria.com/
Local events around town listed by day
ticket prices and show times to boot.

Ok, so the winter of 1996 has returned, your fridge is full but you can't see out your windows. Since someone else will dig you out and your classes are cancelled, self-sanity and that enemy named Boredom must be kept in check. Considering you might also be on a budget, then you'll need some free entertainment:

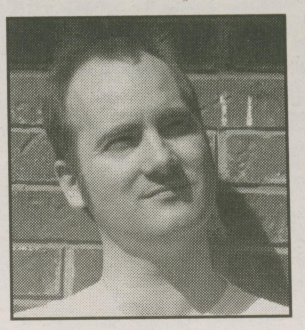
A lifetime of Video:
www.youtube.com I think almost every piece of video that has ever been shot resides here. Humor, horror, car crashes, your drunken and unsuspecting dorm buddies, and complete television shows await your viewing pleasure.

A Universe of Games:
http://www.addictinggames.com/ Little flash and java games that flush valuable hours of your life down the drain awaitthee.

News headlines with a twist:
www.fark.com One person started this website of endless news links (which go to actual stories), and it's his full-time job to keep it rolling. Sometimes the comments can be equally amusing. Links updated almost hourly. Things you didn't think you would do online. No, not that!

Order food without talking to anyone:
www.swisschalet.com Ah, the taste of takeout food without picking up the phone. Personally, I have yet to have an order go wrong.

The student standby (AKA Pizza):
www.pizzahut.ca Not all locations can accept online orders but perhaps the one closest to you can accommodate your hunger pangs – it's pizza, and they know how important that is to the student diet.



Groceries anyone?
http://www.thriftyfoodsonline.com/ Yup, don't even leave the seat you're in and stock up the cupboards. Get it all delivered too!

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www.ebay.com I know, you heard of it right? Tips: Ebay's search engine isn't the best, when searching try variants of the words your enter, ie: "beer kegs" can be searched as "beer", "kegs", "beerkegs", "keg" etc. Also, be careful of inflated shipping charges and handling fees. Ebay has recently started to crack down on the shady shippers but many still exist. If possible, send everything via USPS and not courier. Canada Customs likes nothing more than to charge a nice flat fee for laying a finger on your Ebay treasure.

Your computer is your lifeline to the outside world, but sometimes the world wants to look inside. With the exception of your time, you can defend yourself at no cost:

www.free.grisoft.com Free antivirus that never expires or asks you to buy the "full" version. Want a free personal Firewall? Yup. Zone Alarm can be found at www. download.com Make sure you find the free one, as the company also has pay versions. www.windowsupdate.com With the exception of newly see-you-in-court Windows Genuine Advantage update, all other Windows updates are required. Security patches and fixes keep the Windows boat afloat. Ad-Aware, Ewido and Spybot are also useful tools in the fight against malware. These programs also reside at www.download.com

See, you can survive online! Just don't forget to use the bathroom when necessary.

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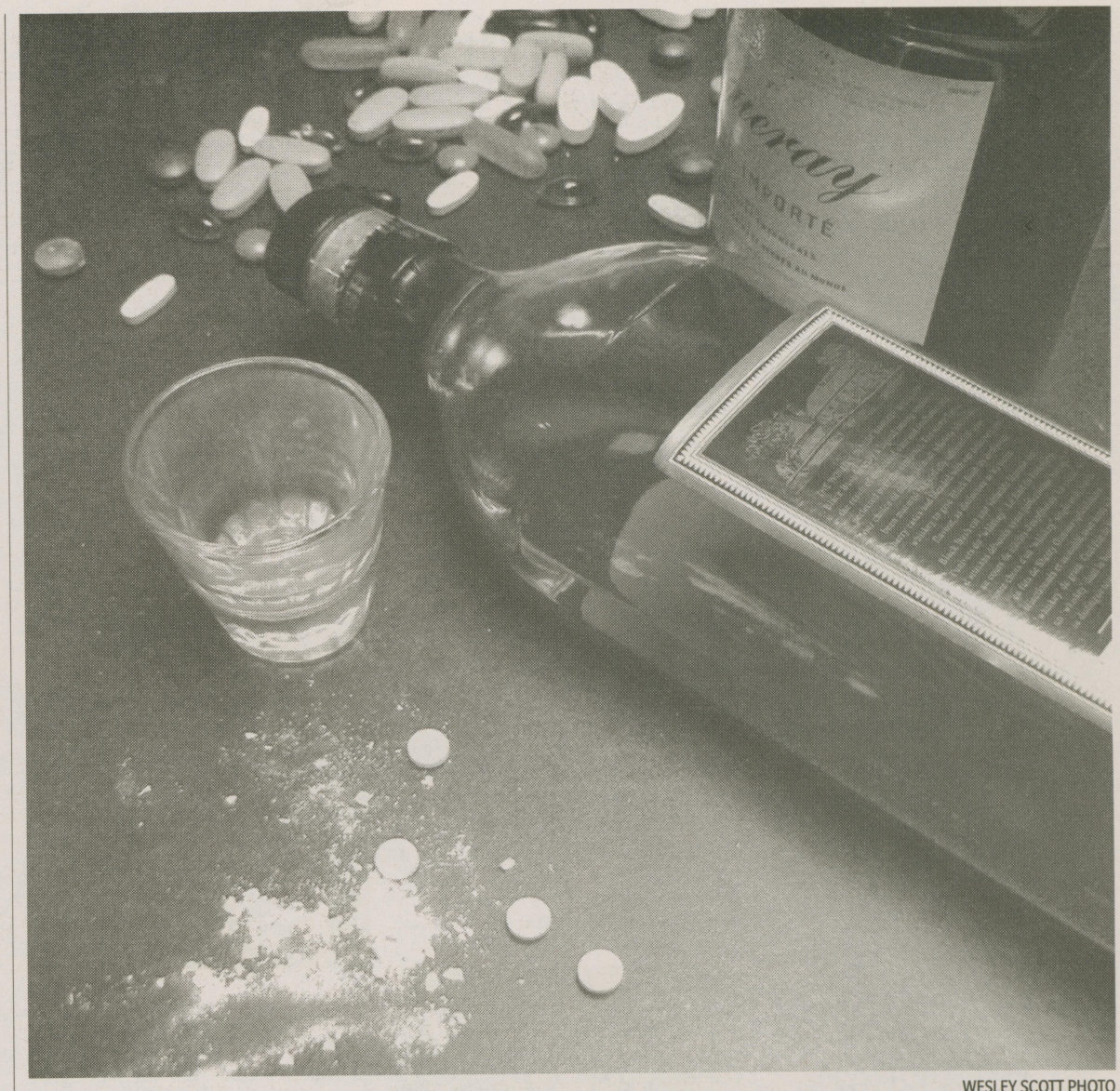

WESLEY SCOTT PHOTO

Sexual assault is often associated with drugs and alcohol.

Police warn students about sexual assault

by Lindsay Lafreniere

With reading break coming up and inhibitions gradually making their way out the window, students need to be aware of the dangers of sexual assault.

"Your health and well-being is worth more than the price of a drink. As flattering as it may be to have someone bring you a drink, it's just not worth it," warned Sgt. John Price of the Saanich Police Department.

Price is raising awareness about the risk of sexual assault in situations of excessive alcohol use and thus impaired judgement.

"Sexual assault is any form of unwanted sexual contact. It includes unwanted touching or kissing as well as sexual intercourse without consent. It does not matter the degree of force or threat," said Sally Gose, direct services manager of the Victoria Women's Sexual Assault Centre (WSAC).

WSAC responded to 110 sexual assault reports last year, of which 36 were suspected to be drug facilitated. The highest occurrence, which accounted for 36 per cent of the reports, was found in the 20- to 29-year-old demographic.

In the cases reported to the police, 80 per cent of complainants were assaulted by people they knew.

When sexual assaults occur during or after going to a nightclub or bar, the offender is often someone the victim may have just met. Usually the victim has consumed too much alcohol and/or drugs and becomes victimized by the situation, explained Price.

"The big concerns with bars and clubs is the drug-facilitated sexual assaults," said Gose. "But what we are finding is that a lot of drug-facilitated sexual assaults take place at house parties."

GHB and Rohypnol are two commonly used substances that aid in sexual assault, according to the UVic Anti-Violence Project, a campus sexual assault centre.

GHB was originally created as a surgical anaesthetic and then marketed as a natural sedative until it was banned.

Rohypnol is a benzodiazepine that has been used for its sedative properties.

The effects of these drugs begin 15 to 30 minutes after ingestion and include slurred speech, difficulty walking, dizziness, nausea, vomiting and impaired judgment—all symptoms that can easily point to alcohol intoxication.

Price argues it is hard to be sure if "date rape" drugs are being administered at house parties since they are very difficult to test for after the assault has occurred. Those assaulted usually don't get examined until after the drugs and alcohol have left their systems.

"What can happen at a house party is that you have excessive alcohol use, you have the dynamics of the house and the group there, and you have multiple bedrooms," said Price. "You do occasionally get sexual assaults where, typically, a woman is sexually assaulted in a bedroom or bathroom."

Any incident of unwanted sexual contact should be reported to the police or WSAC.

The Saanich police have people trained to interview victims of sexual assault and there is a medical team specialized for these incidents, according to Sgt. Barbara Webber, the officer in charge of the Saanich Police Youth Section and Child Abuse Team.

"Part of the benefit of going through this process and standing up for yourself is the return of a sense of empowerment and of stepping out of the victimization," said Price. "You can see justice done for the crime that was perpetrated against you."

Gose mentioned that there can be long-term problems associated with a sexual assault, which she said can include "a wide spectrum of physical, emotional, cognitive and spiritual effects."

"Many survivors experience chronic stress-related health issues, have problems with fatigue, substance use or food issues, and struggle with self-worth and isolation," said Gose.

Webber mentioned that it is possible to successfully prosecute an assaulter and it is the right thing to do, which is difficult when the victim knows the accused.

"The victim cannot blame themselves or think the community will judge them," said Webber. "It's sad to see how much blame victims will put on themselves. Let's put the blame where it should be put, and that's on the offender."

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Cleaning laundry gets a little greener

by Brandon DeLyzer

If you've ever felt the need to do something old-fashioned or wanted to stick it to the metaphorical "man," check out UVic pre-med students Michael Burns and Tyler Ambrose's handwashing laundry service.

The business has been running since September outside their residence cluster building, 52101, but at three cents a load, it's obvious they aren't in it for the profits.

"There's no way in hell I'm going to pay three dollars for one small load of laundry. It's a rip-off," protests Ambrose. With $2,000 in his bank account for the entire year, Ambrose can't afford the on-campus laundromat. If a student does two loads a week, they'll spend about $200 for the school year, and that's not including detergent, Spray N' Wash and pretty-smelling Bounce sheets.

Burns, who has plenty of money to spare from summer-job savings, has other motives.

"I have fun washing my own clothes and making my own soap. It's down-to-earth, and you meet lots of people when they walk by and go, 'Hey what are you doing?' We're backwards pioneers inventing the old."

Passing traffic is their main source of clients. Besides a small cardboard sign outside their front door with "Laundry 3 cents" scribbled on it in purple marker, the boys don't have much of an advertising budget—but they don't really care.

"We don't have that many customers," says Burns. "But it's not about that, of course—we're just happy to help someone else do cheap laundry."

The soap is made from borax, baking soda, table salt, and orange peel for scent. All the ingredients are environmentally friendly and, of course, cheap.

The recipe seems simple, but the actual washing is no easy chore. First, the soap is mixed in a large bucket of hot water. Then, Burns and Ambrose clean their feet before jumping in and running around as though they were crushing grapes at an old-school winery. After the "wash cycle," there is a rinse in the shower followed by a "spin cycle," where the boys grab the laundry and spin in circles.

"I thought they were crazy at first, but now I get them to clean our mats every week," says student and neighbour Nicole Kral. "I love the orange scent."

"We had some blunders in the experimental stages," admits Ambrose. "The microwave was our first pick to dry the clothes, but they just got really hot. Then we tried the oven, but I got grill marks on my boxers, so we canned that." Now the boys hang the clothes on a drying rack outside.

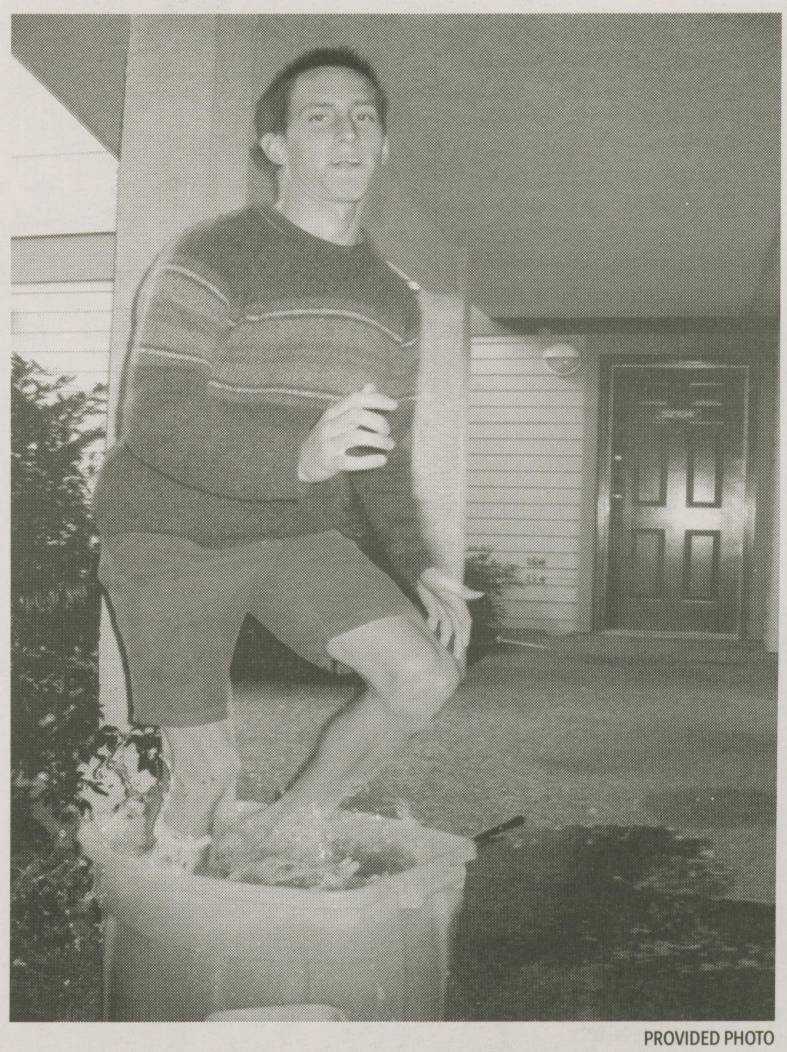
Ambrose and Burns picked up their quaint way of life while visiting rural parts of Asia. Except for dairy and a few other inaccessible essentials, they forage for all their food—they pick fruits, fish for salmon and grow many spices. As for those other essentials, Burns and Ambrose buy only a few things in bulk sales to last for each semester, such as 80 pounds of oatmeal and 40 post-Halloween pumpkins.

"You can last a long time on oatmeal and pumpkins," says Ambrose.

But the counterculture doesn't stop there. Originally, the boys were going to purchase a 1921 salmon trawler to save money on rent, but the deal fell through when the boat sank. They planned to drop anchor in Caddie Bay and row in every morning for class.

"We're still looking [for another boat]," sighs Ambrose, "but I had my heart set on that salmon trawler."

"There are so many more plans," says Burns. "Our laundry service is just a start."



PROVIDED PHOTO

Michael Burns does the "wash cycle" with his feet.

New wave of feminine hygiene products

by Jen Murray

TORONTO (CUP) — Every menstrual product I have ever known has been plastic, shrink-wrapped and stiff. I can't count the number of times I've been scratched by plastic liners, stabbed by applicators or waxed by an adhesive.

Like many women, I was raised on tampons and pads and their tidy little wrappers. After many pad-related wax jobs, I was curious about alternatives.

My curiosity was piqued when a friend mentioned that her friend uses a tampon alternative called the Keeper, a rubber cup that collects menstrual blood. The product is worn for 12 hours and isn't as messy as one might think.

The fear of "ickiness" is a symptom of modern society, according to Madeleine Shaw, creator of Lunapads washable menstrual pads.

Shaw says using disposable pads and tampons turns menstruation into a negative experience.

"All a woman's normal, natural bodily processes are treated as diseased." I mention to her how pretty her washable pads are, and I feel like I've made her day.

"It's pretty, instead of putting this thing that looks like a bandage, which again is that pathologization," she said of the array of colours and designs. Shaw designed the Lunapads to be gentle.

"You're not shoving something that's going to draw you out or poke you. It just lets menstruation happen, and it's soft and comfortable."

Having tried a similar product to the Keeper in the past, which was an experience I can sum up in the word "ouch," I came to the conclusion that they aren't for me. Washable pads, however, I think I deal with. And I'll admit, the idea that I can pick leopard-print or poodle-print fabric is part of the appeal. I'm curious about how these pretty little pads will compare to regular pads.

On P day, I feel slightly ambivalent about getting these pretty things dirty. It's almost guilt, and a fear as to what will become of these things when I'm done with them. Although I like that they're not plastic, that's a little scary.

I decide that the only way to do this right is to follow Nancy's lead: plunge head-on in. I put on my Lunapad (minor assembly required) and head to the mall. I actually forget that I'm wearing a pad. There's no pulling or waxing or plastic poking or scratching anywhere.

Smith said traditional pads make things look a lot worse than they are, and I think she's right because it's not the massacre I was expecting. Unlike pads, these things actually absorb fluid, not just the mystery blue liquid on the commercials.

Washing the fabric was easy enough. I simply put some soap in a bucket and rinsed the pads before soaking them. Mind you, my mother gave the dog a bath the day before so I used a garden hose attachment to rinse the pads, no doubt affecting the ease with which they came clean, but no matter. They went in the wash and came out fine.

While nowhere near as convenient as disposable pads, I like these fabric pads. They're soft, pretty and more absorbant than regular plastic pads.

I found the experience so comfortable that I actually ordered some for myself. While I might not use them all the time, it's nice to have a choice, especially when you can choose between leopard-print and poodles.

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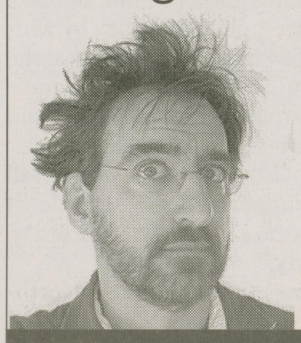

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Editorial

Little Sister's denied funds

Little Sister's Book and Art Emporium is appropriately named, considering its David-and-Goliath fight against Customs Canada.

The little shop on Vancouver's Davie Street that features queer literature, toys and other pride items was denied funding to review Customs Canada's ability to stop their alternative books from coming into Canada. Four books are currently banned from the country, and Little Sister's books are disproportionately detained.

But instead of giving Little Sister's the funding they require to continue their complaint, the Supreme Court ruled on Jan. 19 that the store's claim of being continually and unfairly targeted and censored is just too small to deserve financial help from the Canadian government.

The Supreme Court of Canada (SCC) decided in 2000, in another dispute between Little Sister's and Customs Canada, that it was unconstitutional to demand an importer prove that goods were not obscene and would not result in harm to the "Canadian community." Now the state has to prove why a movie, book or work of art should not be allowed into Canada.

Also in the December 2000 decision, the SCC held that Customs Canada was systemically discriminating against Little Sister's. Counsel for Customs Canada promised the court that reforms had been implemented.

Now, 12 years after they first took Customs Canada to court, Little Sister's asserts that Customs Canada has not gone through with reforms and that discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is still rampant. The chambers judge found their claim passed the basic test of facts and evidence. However, the bookstore barely breaks even, and the costs of the continuing litigation have been estimated at up to $1.1 million.

If the onus is really on Customs Canada to justify denying the importation of the four books in question, it should be up to them to foot the legal bill when their judgment is questioned, especially when it has already proven to be flawed.

However, blame in this case rests primarily on the SCC itself. In 2000, repealing the "reverse onus" provision was only one small step for Little Sisters, and it didn't go far enough. A dissenting opinion (one that only a minority of judges hold, so it doesn't get put into force) found that the Customs regulation that allows for censorship of sexually obscene materials should be stricken because it was too vague. It leaves too much up to the discretion of frontline Customs Canada officers, resulting in systemic discrimination against queer material—70 per cent of what Customs detains for obscenity is gay and lesbian material. It's the vagueness of the law that allows for differing interpretations of the law by Little Sister's and Customs Canada, which has contributed to the discriminatory treatment Little Sisters has suffered. For that reason, Canada owes the bookstore the funds to proceed with a trial that could vindicate them.

Had the Customs regulation that referenced the legal definition of obscenity been struck down by the court, it would be up to parliament to replace it, which, considering today's political climate, could have involved a heated public debate. If Parliament were unable to agree upon how to replace it, Canada would be left without criteria for what the government deems obscene.

The legal argument against granting Little Sister's funds to pursue the lawsuit boiled down to the fact that it had too big a scope in comparison to the minimal damage to their operation, and that it wasn't a special enough case with important enough national ramifications to warrant taxpayer funds.

And that is absurd. The abuse by government officials of a law that limits freedom of expression deserves investigation of the largest scope, because it harms our Canadian community more than racy gay sex books ever could.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at our weekly editorial meeting at 3 p.m. every Friday in the *Martlet* office (SUB B011). Editorials are written by one or more staff members, and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

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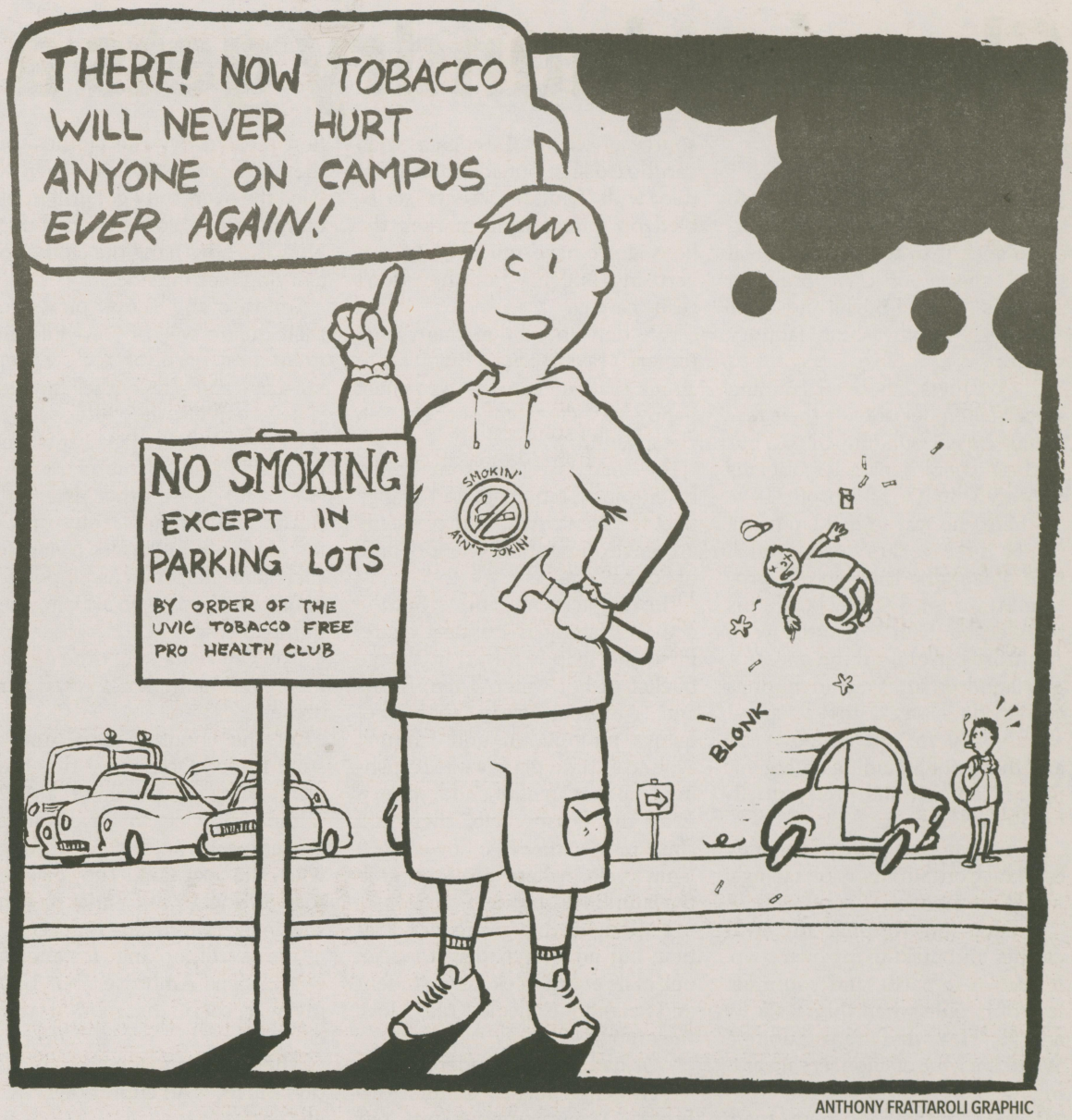
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LETTERS

Sweet Jobs?
In last week's issue of the *Martlet*, Dave Karp ridiculed the notion of tuition reductions, characterizing his debt-laden fellow students as idle complainers and encouraging us to "drop out and get a sweet job."

Indeed, there is money to be made in the service and construction industries. I think most students at UVic are aware of this. But the reason we're here and not out there bringing in the big bucks is because the jobs aren't really all that sweet.

The construction and service industries are typified by poor job security, lack of benefits, lack of mobility and higher occupational risks. Like nearly everything in the economy, they are subject to boom-bust cycles. Right now, B.C. is booming and wages are up. Five, 10, 20 years from now, how will things have changed? The question students must be asking themselves when choosing between education and employment is: who do they want to be when things get rough in B.C. when they have a family and kids of their own? If you're here at UVic, I suspect it is because your choice is to be skilled later rather than well off now.

University graduates do not make as much money as the average unskilled tradesperson. That is a fact. But university graduates have more psychologically fulfilling jobs, more social mobility and, to put it quite bluntly, far more value to society than another fry flipper.

Dylan Sherlock, UVic student

Clarifying claims
Matthew Gauk's article about Nick Mathers ("Nick Mathers remembered," *Martlet*, Jan. 18) well conveyed the poignant message of the Mathers's family. However, I believe some clarifications are necessary if we're not to risk misinterpretation of a specific passage.

Nick's mother, Vickie Thomas, was "disappointed that an attempt was made to blame her son" because those blameful statements were largely fallacious. While Nick was not wearing a helmet that night, his bike had reflective strips on its pedals and a front light. Furthermore, he was wearing light-coloured, not "all black" clothing, as has been wrongly stated in the sentencing and parole hearings and letters to the *Times Colonist*.

I can only imagine the discontent that one would feel with our legal system when blatant inventions such as these are heard and not challenged in court.

Lara Miramontes, UVic student

NDP damaged by green trend

by Spencer Anderson

The NDP has a problem on its left-of-centre, progressive hands: the latest trend in Canadian politics is green.

Why is this a problem for the NDP? Well, if everyone—including the banjo-strummin' ex-Reform members of the Conservative Party—cite "the environment" as their top priority, it slowly but surely renders the New Democrats irrelevant.

The NDP's public approval ratings have been dropping faster than a piano pushed off the top floor of the Empire State Building. Why should any environment-conscious Canadian vote NDP when their vote could go to one of Stéphane Dion's candidates? After all, Dion has made the environment one of the pillars of his "three-pillar approach," and a Liberal candidate has a far better chance of being elected in most ridings than a New Democrat.

And let's not forget the surging Green Party, which hit a high of 10 per cent support in the national polls last month and has been steadily eroding NDP support in many ridings across the country. Under the new leadership of the formidable Elizabeth May, a former member of Brian Mulroney's environment ministry, the Green Party is in a good position to make Canadian political history by winning a few seats, presumably at the expense of the New Democrats. May dismisses this notion and said in an interview with Peter Mansbridge, "I think we draw from all party support equally. People of all political stripes are attracted to our party."

However, in the London-North-Centre byelection, May captured nearly 26 per cent of all votes cast, causing the NDP candidate to lose twice as many votes as either the Liberal or Conservative candidates.

This has caused the hairs to rise on the necks of many New Democrats. How can they stop (or at least slow down) the slump in their support?

The answer may not be an obvious one. Although the NDP may now have the power to prop up Harper's minority government in exchange for key changes to environmental policy, it's not likely to help them much. It would be too easy for Harper to share (or perhaps even dominate) the credit the public might give. On the other hand, if the NDP withdraws its support and triggers another election, the politician-weary public may penalize the party.

The good news is that Canadians will benefit from the new focus on sustainability, but for the NDP, it's another story.

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Don't mess with his cigarettes

Revenge will be sought against supporters of no-smoking campus policy

by Dock Currie

If you want to rage against big tobacco, that's fine by me. But get in the way of me and my occasional pack of Captain Blacks and you'll find yourself with more medical problems than are associated with a lifetime of smoking.

Because, honestly, it's not enough that our proud and self-destructive heritage has been pushed back into the wet and unheated recesses of bars, but now fascist anti-smoking advocates are hell-bent on browbeating smokers right out of proximity to civilization entirely, including at the school.

Last week it was proposed that the University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS), and subsequently UVic, adopt the mantra and practices of a "smoke-free school." This means that smoking would no longer be tolerated in most on-campus areas and that stores like SUBtext and the vending machine in Felicita's would no longer stock tobacco. Moreover, smokers would no longer be allowed to smoke near or around the school. They'd be forced to travel either off-campus or to designated smoking areas in parking lots before lighting up.

Non-smokers don't realize that however much they dislike the idea of smoking or the smoke itself, smokers are people, and if we want to hurt ourselves, it's our choice to make.

And, while I refute neither the innumerable studies on the detriments of smoking on someone's health nor the ample evidence that secondhand smoke is harmful, we are already outside! Seriously, get over yourselves.

If you make us go to parking lots to smoke, presumably because there's already gross smoke there already, then you are imposing a state of affairs where our health will be damaged above and beyond what would come about if we were just smoking—by the exhaust from our new neighbours, cars.

The UVSS currently makes about $19,000 a year off tobacco products, which would obviously dry up. They've been making money off smokers for years without any indication that they might be headed in this direction. Traitors! If they were legitimately serious about making this a smoke-free campus, then perhaps they should start off for a few years with something less drastic, like simply not selling tobacco on campus. What's proposed right now is alienating, discriminatory and unnecessarily drastic.

A ban on smoking on campus is a complete reversal of policy. It's condescending. Most of all, it's completely and utterly unenforceable.

All it will do is create an environment of conflict with an army of guerrilla smokers all blowing smoke in inappropriate areas just to prove a point. And I swear to God I'll be one of them.

If you get Campus Security to fine me for smoking in open air, I promise I'll roll that up and smoke it too.

Discrimination on Victoria Transit

Double standards for who gets on the city bus unfair for members of our community

by Monica Butt

Since when were bus drivers a governing force deciding who gets on public transit and who does not?

On Friday, Jan. 12, at 9:37 p.m., I boarded the 26 Dockyard bus at the UVic exchange stop. The regular crowd of house-party-bound students, late-night studiers, moviegoers, employees and grocery shoppers boarded the bus, which would hopefully whisk us efficiently and safely to our various destinations.

After parking myself on the plush public seat, I noticed a disturbance at the front of the bus. The driver and Peter Verin, a well-known campus bottle scavenger, were disagreeing about Verin's right to board public transit.

The driver argued that Verin's baggage (one bag of empty bottles) was a hazard to other riders and claimed that the bottles posed a threat to riders if they needed to exit the bus in the event of an emergency.

I'm sure if the single bag of bottles was a hazard, then so were the students openly drinking their Coronas upstairs and leaving the bottles on the steps. You could also view the guy carrying his hockey duffle bag or the girl carrying two weeks' worth of groceries as hazardous.

Verin is a member of our community. He pays his $65 monthly pass fee in order to be granted the so-called privilege of riding Victoria transit. He has the same right as I do to the plush seat. Just because I decide to spend my time hovered over textbooks rather than cashing in bottles, it does not place me on a superficial hierarchy of transit riders. If I had walked onto the bus with Verin's bag, there likely would have been no questions asked.

On numerous occasions, I have boarded the exact same bus with a 70-litre backpack full of groceries and numerous other bags in my hands, taking up at least two seats. This would be a questionable amount, worthy of hazard assessment. But I get on with no questions asked.

With Verin, the driver proceeded to aggressively refuse service without a legitimate reason for the next 20 minutes, making no effort to seek further help when Verin eloquently asked to speak to a supervisor. The driver simply told him he was not allowed on the bus, and that was that.

Shifting in my uncomfortably warm seat, I anticipated the dramatic sealing of the doors. Verin turned around out of frustration to throw his hands in the air, giving up on all hope of communication and salvation of his dignity. The driver quickly pushed that magical button of middle-class safety and off we went, into the night, leaving Verin to find his own way in -8 C temperatures.

As a concerned student, I am disappointed by the driver's lack of respect and professionalism toward Verin.

I am frustrated by the lack of consistency in the rules that prevented Verin from riding the bus that evening. But I am most saddened by the discriminative injustice witnessed.

I wrote to Victoria Transit telling them to resolve this issue with Verin, and I'm still awaiting a response.

Till then, my once-cherished stereotype of Vancouver Island's peace, love and happiness is waiting to be put back together.

Just add lesbians and stir

It's not perfect, but *The L Word* is bang on in its portrayal of the hyper-dramatized lesbian lives

by Anna Richards

I'm a lesbian in my 20s and, as such, I want some form of mass media representation through which to project my anxieties, desires, hopes and fears.

Spare me the onscreen guy-girl platitudes with sex so painfully cliché and sapped of lust—to make it appropriate for family viewing—that a mother might say, "Look kids, that's what Mommy and Daddy did to make you." In response to which the whole family would erupt into uncontrollable fits of laughter—except maybe for Daddy, who perhaps didn't catch the joke.

It's just that such unimaginative programming, though a powerful tool for indirectly promoting alternative sexualities, will never move me to tears or laughter. It will, however, move my index finger toward the channel button in search of something (anything!) more palatable.

But what alternatives has a gal like me got? Well, for starters, there's *The L Word*, a show with which I have developed a love/hate relationship over the years. Since its inception in 2004, the Vancouver-filmed drama series has worked miracles in normalizing lesbian sex (and its concomitant drama) on TV. During its noblest moments, it has even dabbled in other socially sensitive topics such as race, gender and the sex trade.

By no means, however, is this *Sex and the City* redux à la lesbienne beyond reproach. Indeed, extensive lists have been made of its obvious flaws. A 12-year-old could write more convincing dialogue, and the quality of acting hovers consistently between mediocre and poor. Human complexity and subtlety are sufficiently ignored as to allow for an entirely new brand of stereotyping.

As far as I can tell, straight people featured in *The L Word* are notable only in their exceptional capacity for being hopelessly square, equipped with what seems like an inexhaustible repertoire of ignorant one-liners. That the majority of the characters look freshly plucked from the runway and, with few exceptions, make substantially more money than I could ever dream of also screams of misrepresentation. But let's not get carried away here.

The L Word is first and foremost a glorified soap opera meant to appeal to those senses not typically associated with intellectual depth. So when 15 minutes into an episode the myriad subplots either disintegrate or show signs of resolution, it's only natural that someone onscreen makes a mad lunge for the emergency drama lever to ensure emotional chaos is restored. Perhaps Bette will offend someone with her signature pretentious diatribes, Jenny will write tortured nonsense or Shane will self-destruct, leaving a path of broken hearts in her wake. Oh, and of course, a new coupling will materialize (often out of thin air) mostly for the viewing pleasure of the audience.

If *The L Word* has in any way captured the essence of its demographic, it is in its ability to convey what I have observed to be the hyper-dramatized day-to-day existence of lesbians. For this rare gift, I excuse (or rather, I tolerate) all the show's downfalls. With the same determined faith of a born-again Christian, I have devoted many a Sunday evening to *The L* in the company of fellow believers.

Don't want to be the boring square in the room? Just add queer women to your life and stir. The same rules apply to TV. Amen.

WE KNOW YOU'RE OUT THERE So why not write us letters? e-mail oped@martlet.ca

THE BIRTH OF A NEW GENERATION

GROW UP GLO

A FEATUR
ONE MS. H
CLAR

"Who am I?" and "Where am I from?" are questions that most young adults ask themselves at one point or another. But what if by age 21 you had already moved more times than you could count? What if you had lived in so many different cultures that you were forgetting who you were, or had been, or were becoming? What if you had multiple nationalities, perhaps even different ones than your parents or siblings? Sometimes "Who am I?" just isn't that easy to answer.

At Schiphol airport in Holland, you stand in the departure lineup for European citizens. "Have a good trip," a customs officer says to you. You switch planes at Heathrow in London where, with a flash of your British passport, you are welcomed home and then again wished a pleasant trip. Nine hours later, at the Vancouver airport, you stand in the customs check lineup for Canadian citizens. With a flash of your Canadian passport, you are once again welcomed home. Home. Hmm, interesting. Have you really come home?

Whether in the pursuit of international careers, personal ambitions or a simple change in scenery, people are on the move. From 2004 to 2005, Statistics Canada recorded that Canada opened its doors to 244,579 immigrants. On the other side of the globe, in the tiny country of Holland, over 100,000 people emigrated within the first nine months of 2006. Dutch projections, according to the newspaper *Telegraaf*, say that this number will continue to increase. Immigrants are everywhere, and so are their children.

Within the population of immigrants, a new subculture of youth has emerged: the global citizen. Born of parents different nationalities and with numerous countries to call home, these children—often children of expatriates—truly are the citizens of the world.

An international upbringing carries with it an aura of excitement and privilege. Multinational companies prefer their employees to have an international background. But how do the youth feel growing up under such circumstances? How does it affect their personal growth? Often, among these youth, the initial charm of adventure leads to restlessness and the driving quest for their place in the world.

Bárbara van Kerkoerle is one such citizen. Born in Brazil from a Polish mother and a Dutch father, van Kerkoerle says she has given up on her search for identity. "I struggled with the issue a lot when I was younger. Any time we moved somewhere new and the kids asked me where I was from, I never really knew what to say. I was jealous of the fact that they could say 'I'm from here' with such certainty. I wanted that, too." Not until she enrolled in the European School in Holland—a type of international school—did van Kerkoerle feel like she'd found a home. "Everybody was from some other place. None of us had a clear picture where our roots were, so we understood each other."

International schools are the breeding places of global-minded citizens. The International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) works with 1,922 schools around the world and in 124 countries with over 500,000 students. One of the main goals of these schools is to provide a sense of continuity in the educational lives of their students, who are between the ages of three and 19. The organization offers students an opportunity to continue their education in English, regardless of the host country's language. "It's hard enough for kids to be uprooted every few years and to adjust to a new culture," says Luc Blomme, a teacher at the International School in Amsterdam. "IB schools offer the same structure of education across the globe. At least kids can count on that."

The IBO programs provide students with a high level of education. Class content is geared to incorporate an international perspective, highlighted by lessons of local importance. Claire Piech attended two International Schools, one in Kenya and the other in Kuala Lumpur. "Even though the curriculum from the schools was based on the American school system, aspects from the local culture were integrated into our education," she says. "Throughout school in Kenya, we took Swahili lessons, learned about Kenya's history, studied the behaviour of the wildlife, looked at the geography and learned about the art and the dance.... It was a wonderful way to grow up, having so many different races learning to appreciate Kenya."

Even though such schools supply children with a

OWING UP LOBAL

ATURE BY
MS. HEATHER
CLARK

WITH NO SINGLE PLACE TO CALL HOME

sense of security and a place to fit in, moving to a new country always has its challenges. Like many things, the transition becomes easier the more you do it. Learning to adapt to new countries, cultures and traditions becomes second nature to children who are dragged around the globe with their parents.

"During the first few days of living in a new country, you're flooded with cultural differences," says Anthony Clark, another global citizen. He says one of the first differences you are faced with—greetings—can often be an embarrassing moment.

"When I was 13, I moved from Canada to Holland, where my mom is from. I remember being horrified by people kissing me three times when we met for the first time, even if they were family. A simple handshake would have been fine by me."

Even more surreal for Clark was that the group of people he stood kissing were family members he had never met before. "Up until that moment, 'family' to me meant my mom, dad and sister. At that point it took on a whole new dimension."

Growing up without extended family is not uncommon for most global citizens. Their lifestyle means that their cousins, aunts and uncles live somewhere else. They might see their family once in a while, but they never get to spend much time together. Because of this, many people say that their local friends play a much stronger role in their lives.

"I once heard a saying that it is the people you meet and the friendships you build that make a place beautiful," says Nadine Rahimtoola. "I have come to agree." Rahimtoola—who grew up in Holland and has an Indian father, a Dutch mother and a British passport—explains that although making new friends is rarely an issue, the difficult task is holding on to them when you're constantly on the move. "By the time you've invested enough energy into each other to feel like you've built up a worthy friendship, it's time to move on again. When that happens too often, you tend not to want to invest too much in friendships anymore. What's the point? You'll end up leaving, saying, 'Have a nice life,' before you know it. It also gets tiring to have to tell your story time and again."

The whole process of moving and adjusting, although exciting, is a tiring one. And yet most global citizens continue to pursue an international lifestyle into adulthood. Some global citizens, like many well-travelled people, claim that they've been bitten by the travel bug. It becomes a way of life that shapes who they are. "I get nervous if I stay in one place for too long," says Piech. "It feels like the world is calling to me and I need to see more of it. I'd like to settle down at some point, but I'm worried that I'll never be able to."

Others say that once you're part of the international flow and enter the global market, the opportunities continue to present themselves. "Because of my education, international background and the fact that I speak five languages, I am frequently headhunted by multinational companies," says van Kerkoerle. "I realize that I am very fortunate to have had such an upbringing. I might complain about some aspects of my childhood, but now that I'm older, I can see what an advantage I have over a lot of others."

Bart van Eijk manages of one of the private banking offices of the multinational Dutch bank ABN AMRO. "As an international bank, we prefer to hire people with an international background and preferably multilinguals," he says. "Our experience is that they can service our international clients best and have a good feeling of which way our business should develop."

Job opportunities are not the only benefits of experiencing multiple cultures by living in various countries. It also increases tolerance among people of all races for people of all nationalities. "At a time when there is so much tension in the world, it becomes increasingly important to keep an open mind about other races and their beliefs," says Piech. "I'm happy that so many children are getting the chance to form their own opinions of the world." Her upbringing has taught her to be less judgemental, a lesson of open-mindedness that she believes everybody, global citizen or not, should learn. As globalization spreads more throughout the world, global citizens are perhaps becoming the way of the future. With no single country to call home, they have the world for theirs.

LOCAL MUSIC SCENE | AAARGH! RECORDS, SANIJAV, GLENNA GARRAMONE

Taste the music

SaniJav's Sean Rousseau has an accidental trip

by Rosemary Westwood

Rock music blasts from the basement of a suburban ranch house in Gordon Head. Inside, the four member's of SaniJav practise for the first time this year.

The Victoria band, formed two years ago, won the Jungle Room's Battle of the Bands in spring 2006. This fall, the band could be spotted any given weekend at popular Victoria venues such as Steamers, Logan's and Felicita's (where they hosted an ugly-sweater party).

Their jam space, an unfinished garage soundproofed by old carpets and blankets, smells like a hockey locker-room. In this small room, drums, bass and guitar outrock the vocals of lead singers and songwriters Gordon McGladdery and Mitch Vinet. Listen to the band on CD, however, and the vocals take the lead role in the rock/funk/Dave Matthews Band-esque songs.

"I just want to play melodic, catchy rock and have people dance. That's my main goal with SaniJav," says Vinet.

A few inches separate their heads from the low ceiling, and they insist the stench comes from multiple types of mould, not sweat. The band breaks practice to give their lungs a rest and moves to the living room—a true student bachelor pad complete with a hand-me-down sectional sofa and an odd collection of clothes, unopened Christmas gifts and a half-asleep roommate.

McGladdery (the serious one), Vinet (the trendy one), bass player Darren Minofie (the quiet one) and drummer Sean Rousseau (the rocker) spread out around the sofa. Don't believe the MySpace account of the origins of SaniJav—that they formed in a petri dish in a UVic chemistry lab—the band's beginnings were a chance meeting between McGladdery, Vinet and Rousseau at a lingerie/pyjama party.

SaniJav's fifth member, absent from the practice, is cowbell player James Cleary. Back this January from a stint living in Vancouver, Cleary is an integral part of SaniJav's live set.

"He's crazy and plays the cowbell with such vigour," says Vinet. Cleary has broken multiple cowbells during performances.

Though relatively new, SaniJav has seen some trying times.

"An old man gave us an obscene gesture during a rendition of Jimi Hendrix's 'Little wing,'" says Vinet. "He was drunk and about 70 years old, a little bitter at the world, and he took it out on SaniJav."

At the semi-final of the Battle of the Bands, a competing band gave Rousseau a shot of vodka laced with acid. He was confused by his newfound ability to taste the music until he realized he'd been drugged.

"I rocked out so hard," says Rousseau.

"You were a little off," McGladdery counters.

SaniJav has no political message or higher goal than playing music people want to listen to. The band's name and logo developed haphazardly. The name, for example, is the Fijian god of fertility and livestock.

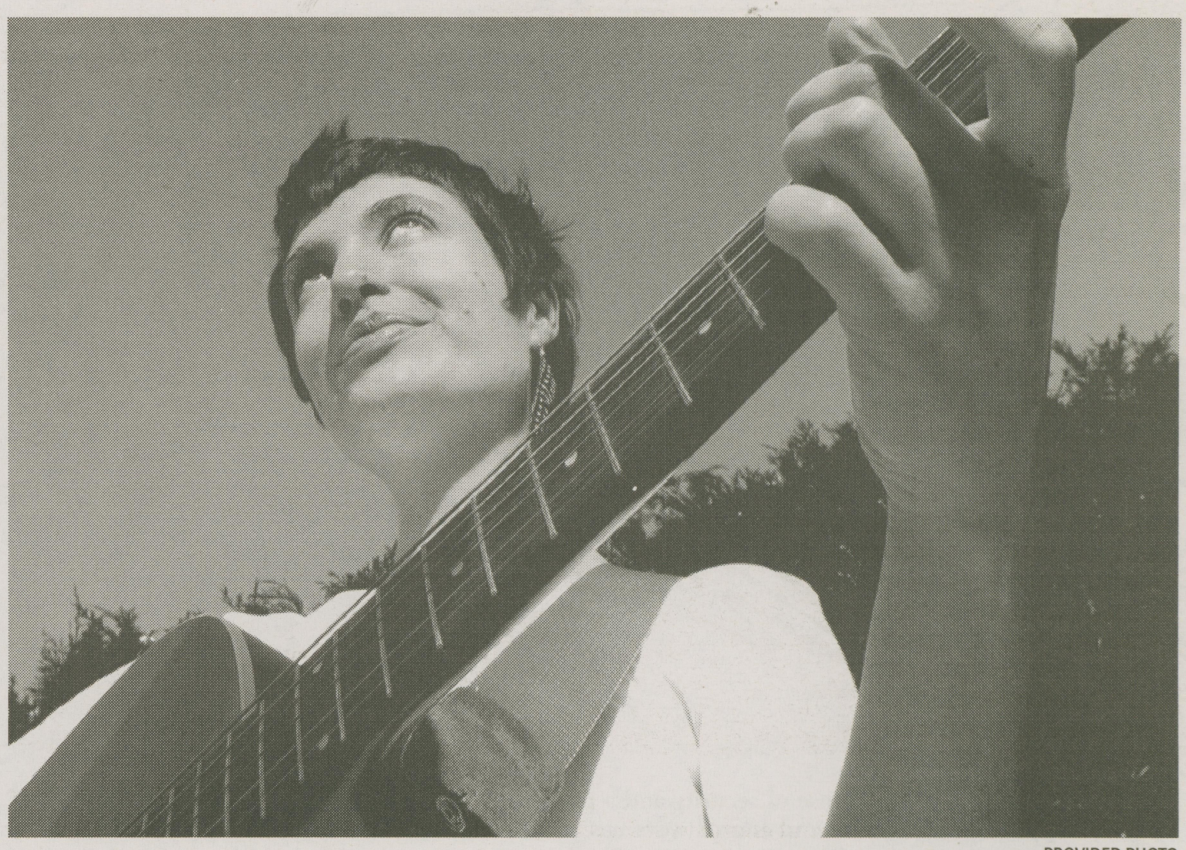
"People think we're like Sani Javs, we're like clean Javs," Vinet complains. But the band likes the way it sounds in a chant.

The tiger-riding lion logo, which McGladdery jokes represents "pointless domination," came about after a drunken conversation between Vinet and McGladdery.

"Gord said—it was very drunken, by the way—'I'm going to get a tattoo of my face, on my face' which ... seemed redundant to me, so I said, 'I'm going to get a tattoo of a lion riding a tiger,'" says Vinet. "And we just took it from there."

SaniJav is equally relaxed about upcoming dates (possibly Felicita's in March) and the release of their first album in April. They had hoped for a Christmas release, but extreme weather and high winds tore the roof off the studio they wanted to use.

With a slew of Island gigs under its belt, SaniJav is looking to the mainland and a possible Western Canada tour. The bandmates may joke about their name, their logo and even their ambition (Rousseau claims they are all "professional rock stars"), but after being crowned winner of the Battle of the Bands, it's clear SaniJav is doing something right.



PROVIDED PHOTO

Glenna Garramone's music is powerful in a positive way.

Where classical meets indie-folk

Artists subject to 'cultural devaluation,' says Glenna Garramone

by Leif Nordholm

Glenna Garramone just graduated from the UVic Writing Program and is now working on her highly anticipated full-length album, due to be released this summer. She'll also be performing at the Solstice Café's Tom Waits tribute night on Feb. 17.

In 2005, Garramone released her own recording of five songs on a disc entitled *Mouth Wide Open*. She recorded it in an afternoon for a folk music conference.

She will include some of these songs on her upcoming album. Her new release, however, will be very different than anything she has done independently.

"It's going to be a studio album, so the songs are going to be sculpted," she says. If you're used to Garramone's solo show, you should expect a new format for this new disc—she uses several different musicians and includes harmonies and backups.

A great influence on her style was classical music. She has performed in piano recitals since she was five. Though there were scholarships available for her to study music at university, tendonitis in both of her wrists prevented her from enrolling. Garramone admits she has great respect for classical musicians, "but I've also always been inspired to create my own work."

Garramone's first performance was at a high school talent show when she was 14. She then discovered that music was "a way that I could be powerful in a positive way." After that, it became apparent that she had a small ocean of friends to support her. "I was always encouraged by everyone around me to keep doing it," she says.

Since 2003, the Perpetual Motion Roadshow tour has featured an international assortment of independent artists. Garramone was one such artist on a whirlwind West Coast tour.

The Roadshow turned out to be a better experience than she could have planned.

She travelled with a comic book artist from San Francisco, who knew someone in L.A. who bought and sold *Star Wars* paraphernalia.

"It's just really surreal to go from my little comfortable existence in Victoria and then five days later I'm staying in L.A. and sleeping in this house with statues of Yoda everywhere and rooms, rooms full of packages and packages of *Star Wars* things."

Garramone says working a day job is one of the sacrifices she has made as an independent musician. She says independent artists are subject to a "cultural devaluation of work if it's not commercial." But Garramone prefers to focus on the positive.

"I'd like to think of what I've benefited from by being independent, which is freedom, really. To say and do and be whatever I'm inspired to."

Aside from continuing to play shows and working on her new album, Garramone is teaching vocal and music lessons.

As many Victoria indie scenesters do, Garramone appeared at the M Power independent music awards. She was there in its inaugural year.

"I think they were still smoothing out what they were about," she comments. This show provided an opportunity for her to become familiar with the local press. It was here that she met *Monday Magazine* editor John Threlfall, who wrote that Garramone was "the real standout of the night."

Inside an indie label, in a sense

by Jessica Smith

When most of the country talks about the West Coast indie music scene, they think of The New Pornographers, A.C. Newman, Neko Case and Destroyer and say, "It's a hip scene over there," or maybe even, "Vancouver is the new Montreal"—but they wouldn't mention Victoria.

It's not that our scene doesn't have any similarities with that of our big-sister city on the Mainland, though our hipsters' jeans may not be as tight and our local stars may not shine as bright yet. But we have as much talent per capita, and most of it showed up this weekend for the Aaargh! Annual Year Two CD release parties at Lucky Bar and Logan's on Friday and Saturday nights.

Aaargh! Records is a label and band promoter "in a sense," said the "kinda main organizer" Joey MacDonald. They make buttons, press records, arrange bookings and for the last two years have created a compilation CD of local bands that includes Counting Heartbeats; Run Chico Run; Away Ri'o!; Chet, Hank and Lily; Fury and the Mouse; and The Paper Cranes.

MacDonald's band, Away Ri'o!, Chet and Himalayan Bear have all put out records on the Aaargh! Label; the rest of the bands on the disc are all friends of MacDonald.

"They're all people whose accomplishments we're very aware of, very proud of I suppose," he said. "They are people we feel we're very rich to have very near."

Aaargh! isn't too interested in working with new artists.

"We're not necessarily a straightforward and typical label as that. It's kind of unfortunate, but we're not super interested in helping," MacDonald said, and then corrects himself. "Well, I don't want to say helping, we always like to help, but our main focus is definitely within a pretty immediate periphery we know and believe in."

Another aspect of the local scene that Victoria shares with Vancouver is the indie clique. It's not that MacDonald and Aaargh! don't help out the less fortunate or less famous—$1 from every 2006 compilation CD sold is being donated to a Haitian literacy organization, and 8.5 per cent of Aaargh!'s profits go to environmental and animal rights agencies. They just have their hands full.

"I can't see how our resources could be spread enough to accommodate another band for a year," MacDonald said.

All of Aaargh!'s projects are with bands MacDonald has worked with for a long time. "We haven't picked them up, signed a contract and promised them the sky and then promoted the fuck out of it or anything. It's all been very grassroots style," he said.

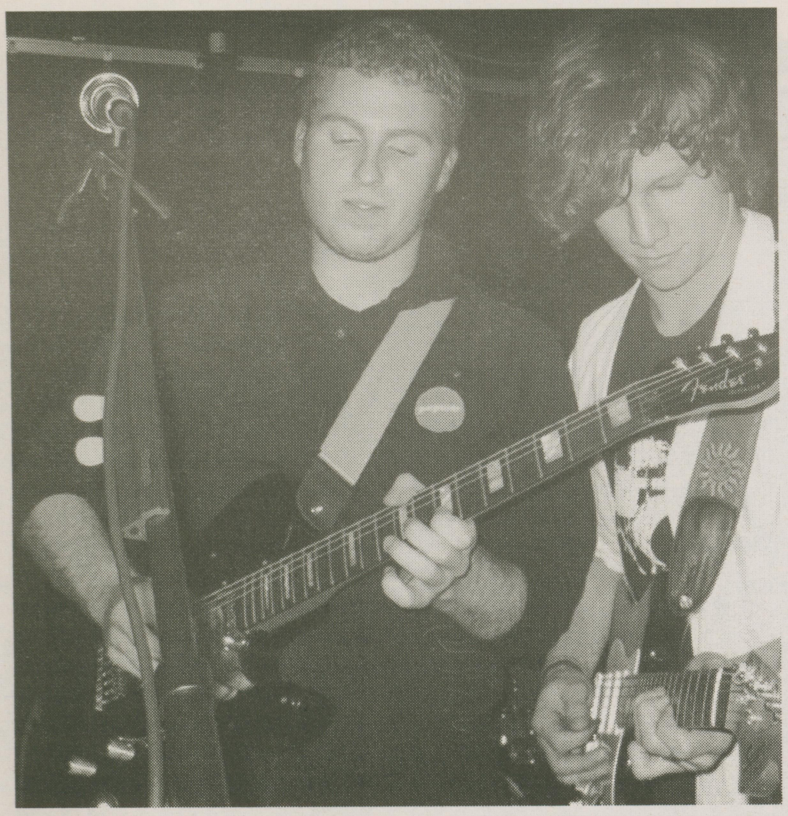
Both CD launch shows drew medium-sized but enthusiastic crowds. The standout band on Friday night at Lucky bar was Colourbook, which MacDonald describes as "a group that's interesting now and will only get more interesting."

"They have a lot of refining to go through, to see their artistic intent pursued more accurately to their hopes," said MacDonald.

On Saturday at Logan's, the first, and best act was Ryan Beattie's solo project, Himalayan Bear. Beattie's band, Chet, is the local group MacDonald singles out for success, and after hearing them, it's hard not to agree.

"Apart from the fact that Chet are all very good friends and they're on the label, they're just one of the most beautiful groups I've ever heard," he said. "Seeing them succeed, it's less suppositional than it is an immediate foresight, I suppose.... So it's incredibly exciting to be a part of that."

Maybe when the success of some of our bands reaches Mainland critics, Victoria will be the next Vancouver—or maybe it will just continue to have a remarkable music scene in its own right.



BRIANNA SLOAN PHOTO

Sunday Buckets drink alcohol and energy drinks on Sundays.

LOCAL MUSIC SCENE | SUNDAY BUCKETS AND A HOTEL-ROOM PARTY

Buckets full of pop rock

by Cassidy Nunn and Brianna Sloan

They may have only played five shows to date, but locals Sunday Buckets have already garnered quite a following in Victoria. Playing to a packed and engaged audience on Saturday, Jan. 13 at Logan's, Sunday Buckets solidified their presence as a band to watch out for in the Victoria music scene.

The band came up with their unique name after many Sunday nights spent downing "buckets"—a mickey of hard liquor, one litre of chase and one large energy drink mixed together and served chilled in a bucket with straws or a ladle—with high school friends.

Sunday nights were "a way of keeping all our friends together after high school," said guitarist/vocalist Eric Frazer. The five band members have been drinking buckets, writing songs and jamming in their basement together for about eight months and have already won the Battle of the Bands at Legends. Now they are gearing up to record their first demo this week with HB Studios.

Opening for Sunday Buckets at Logan's were local bands Among Other Things and Jell.

The three members of the grunge rock band Jell, with their energetic stage presence, got people up and onto the floor. Although they have toured across Canada twice and have a full CD out, it was Sunday Buckets that kept the beer flowing and the seats empty with their brand of upbeat pop rock.

The youngest band member, Kale Penny, isn't yet out of high school, but his mature and powerful voice was a driving force throughout the night, especially in their opening song, "Buffalo."

The only cover song they performed was Wayne Cochran's "Last Kiss." The song was made famous by Pearl Jam's cover, and that's the version the crowd knew. Sunday Buckets' rendition had everyone dancing and singing along at the top of their lungs.

While they lacked a strong stage presence because of their stationary performance style, the screaming girls in the front seemed more than satisfied.

Look out for these talented young musicians. They will be playing at Steamers on Feb. 22 and Legends—show dates are to be announced.

The bachelor party, i.e. the worst idea ever

by Megan Drysdale

Instead of cancelling his trip from Vancouver a couple of weeks ago, Dustin Bromley, a.k.a. solo performer Onomatopeia, launched Operation Worst Idea Ever.

Dustin, a friend of mine since high school, learned Monday night that the venue for his Thursday night show had been temporarily shut down.

I could've told him this would happen—Moustache (which before that was Belle's Bar, and before that was Crouching Rabbit, and before that went by a couple of different names) is notorious for shutting down with little or no notice. I have had friends show up for their own shows only to be met by a "Sorry!" sign at the door.

Desperation leads to some drastic measures. In this particular case, after learning that every venue in town was booked, it means booking a motel room for $49.95. We request a room away from the other guests if possible.

"It's a bachelor party," he tells the hotel clerk over the phone. "We'll probably show up a little late and will probably be a little drunk. We don't want to disturb anyone."

Later, I get a call from Dustin. "It's Room 108," he says. "Try not to look suspicious." I'm not sure how he expects a group of eight drunk 20-somethings to pull off stealthy, but we merry band of hipsters leave the Denny's and head to the In-Town Traveller's Inn across the street.

It's only 9 p.m., early for a show, but it's been decided that the old in-out approach is the best course of action before the 11 p.m. noise bylaw takes effect. Either way, there's a pretty good chance the show's getting broken up by the cops tonight, although we're only expecting about 20 people or so.

The first thing of note, and the first sign that shit may well have hit the fan, is that the room is in the dead centre of the C-shaped motel—guests on either side and within sight and earshot of the front desk.

Dustin opens the door ("We should have a secret knock or something," one of my companions says), and we're met with a tiny space dominated by two double beds.

On the table tucked beside the bathroom rest his iBook and a keyboard speaker.

There are a couple members of local indie-rock groups and a few kids I recognize from Lucky Bar and Logan's Pub. Someone pulls the Bible from the side table. The plan is to answer the door with the Bible in hand, music off, people hiding under beds and behind doors.

There is a nervous, giddy energy, like kids waiting for mom to find them jumping on the bed. I tell the boy holding the Bible to read Luke 15:13, the only passage from the Bible I have memorized: "And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living."

Ashlee and I stand outside, under the guise of my having a cigarette. We are hoping to soothe the neighbours, who we expect to come out of their rooms any minute now to complain about the loud music. Sure enough, the young woman staying to the right of us comes out. She says she doesn't mind the noise but asks why we're all there.

"It's a bachelor party," I say. It takes me a minute to realize why she's staring at us blankly. "A mixed bachelor party. Most of his friends on the Island are girls." It seems to be true—only six of the 20 revelers are male.

Someone calls us back into the room—the show's about to start. We invite our neighbour back in with us.

"We're good kids, just poke your head in," I say. She is finally coaxed to stand by the door.

Dustin is all Onomatopeia now, like an electronic, credit-card-conscious Iggy Pop. The show is understandably lo-fi. Lighting is no more than all the lights off except for the bathroom light and the floor lamp's bulb angled at the ceiling. Dustin yells and screams into a half-empty bottle of Jack Daniel's, "Got some talent, smash it, smashin'!"

He gets through two or three songs before there is a knock at the door that everyone ignores. Another knock. Five minutes later the front desk clerk, a guy a few years older than us with a baggy sweater, stands in the doorway. The Bible clung to the chest of one of the guys isn't as big of a distraction as we thought. Instead, his focus is on Dustin, still screaming and dancing in tight red pants and a tank top. This is probably the strangest bachelor party entertainment he's seen come through here in awhile. He tells us to get out before he calls the cops, then closes the door behind him.

Dustin finishes the song and what just happened.

"Do we have time for one more?" he asks.

"Two more!" somebody yells.

The stakes are raised now, it seems. A few of us sheepishly dance in the space between the beds, tripping over each other until we give up and sit back down. Dustin, in his dirty sneakers, jumps on the bed, pulling down the pastel hotel art above the headboard. A few kids grab it before it hits the floor, and Dustin continues on, oblivious, knocking down a lamp in the process.

The clerk comes back and Bible boy answers the door, blocking the scene behind him. Over the music, I can hear him promise the clerk we'll be out in 15 minutes. I can hear the clerk promise he'll call the cops if we're not out immediately. Bible boy closes the door.

"Just because it's my fault, doesn't mean it doesn't hurt me!" Dustin finishes.

There's applause and yelling before someone says we need to get out of there before the cops show up.

The room is emptied of coats, littered with empty bottles; bed sheets end up on the floor. The key card is thrown into the melting ice.

We're a little slow leaving; four of us are climbing into the last car when a police cruiser stops in front of room 108.

"Are one of you Dustin?" The female cop asks. Dustin nods, hand on the car's door handle. I'm waiting for a "Book 'em, Dan-o" moment and am disappointed when it's nothing more than a warning.

I suppose I should be relieved that I don't have to bail my friend out of jail or pay a fine, but a slap on the wrist and a stern, "We know you're from Vancouver, but here in Victoria, mister...." lecture ruins the punk effect of a trashed hotel room. We're back to kids being caught jumping on the bed.

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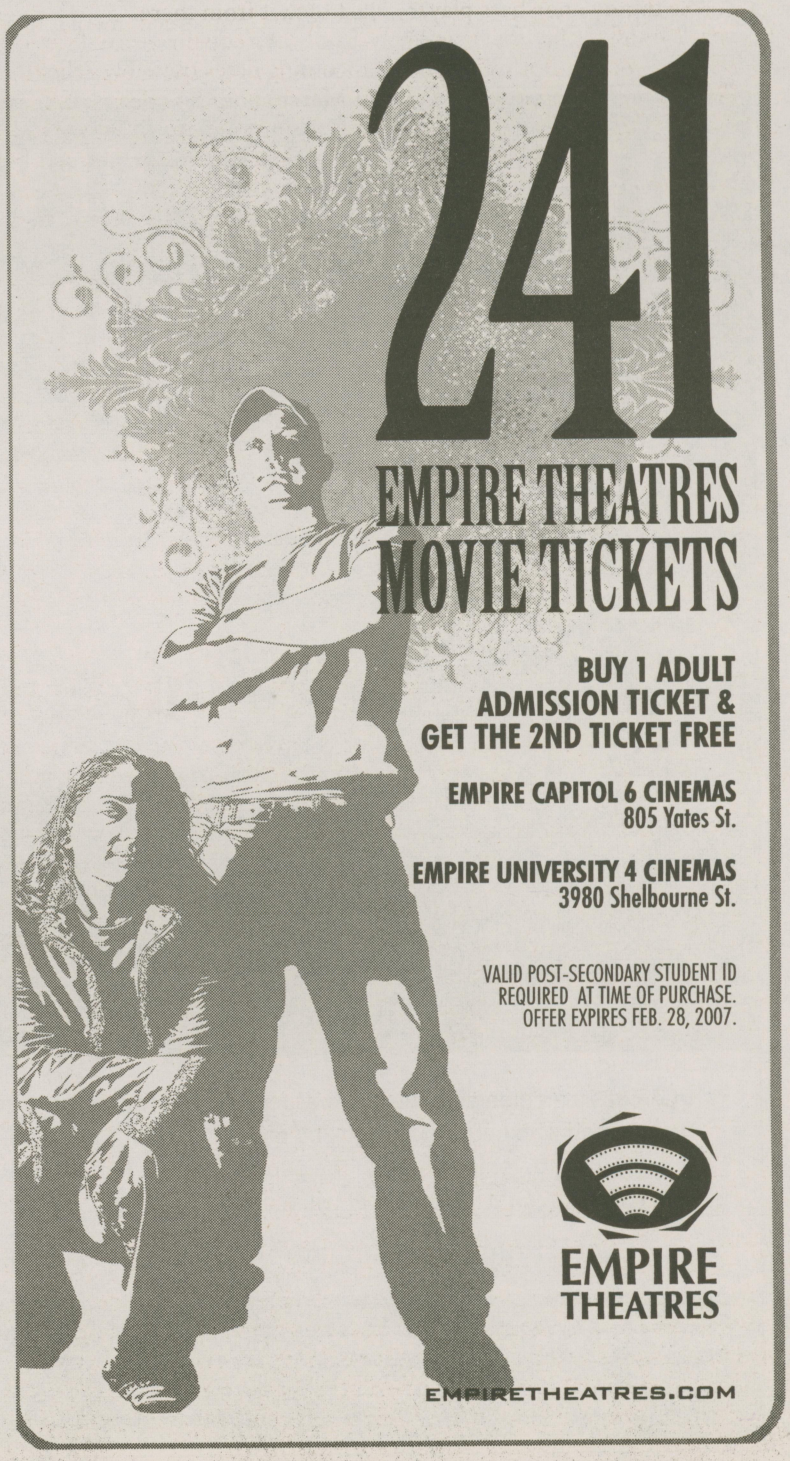

Moneen meets the *Martlet*

by Kevin Ehman

Some bands just can't catch a break. They toil in obscurity, release epic album after epic album and tour to a fanatically devoted yet unjustly small fan base. Thank goodness Moneen is not one of those bands—but it could easily have been.

Up until 2006, Moneen was another talented band touring nonstop to small crowds in cities all over North America. But then, everything changed. The release of the 2006 album *The Red Tree* garnered them attention not only from mainstream Canadian media channels, but also from respected U.S. publications.

On Jan. 18, Moneen was in town for their biggest tour to date, opening for Canadian alt-rock superstars Billy Talent and American alternative mainstays Rise Against and Anti-Flag. After numerous phone calls to their overstressed tour manager and label reps, I arrived at the Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre for our scheduled interview. Unfortunately, local rock radio station The Zone had switched the times of the press responsibilities, leaving the bands hanging in the balance, waiting to answer on-air questions and meet fans.

In the midst of all the chaos, I managed to pull Moneen drummer Peter Krpan aside for an interview deep in the bowels of the venue. The following is an abridged version of our conversation.

Martlet: Hello, Peter from Moneen.

Peter Krpan: Hello, Kevin from the paper that makes magic, wait, what paper is this again?

M: The *Martlet*, the UVic student paper. Don't worry, "martlet" isn't actually a real word.

*(**Editor's note**: A martlet is a mythical bird with no feet. Because it can't stand, it never rests. It represents our relentless search for knowledge and the truth.)*

PK: It sounds like some animal that isn't discovered yet.

M: Well, there is the marmot, a little furry animal that lives on ski hills and is endangered.

PK: If you cross bred that with a marlin, another endangered species, you might get a martlet. I wonder how that would work....

M: Hey, I have managed to get girlfriends here and there, so stranger things have happened. Anyway, I want to start by congratulating you on 2006—big year for the band. Your album *The Red Tree* received five out of five and made the [Ten Essential Albums of 2006] in Alternative Press, beating out records by Underoath and Thursday, bands that A.P. lives and dies for. So the question is, why are Moneen getting this attention now, since you have been putting out great records and touring nonstop for five, six years now?

PK: For one thing, the scene is bigger than ever, and as a band we have matured a lot.

M: But the songs have always been there.

PK: Yeah, but for most people they were a little wacky. We have always been a band that wrote music for ourselves, and that kinda made us into a band that musicians really liked, more so than the average listener—but now it seems we have opened up to a larger audience.

M: So what does that say about the way commercial media like The Zone or Much Music can dictate taste for their audience? For example, they took Alexisonfire, not necessarily a "mainstream" sounding band, and turned them into superstars, while it easily could have been you guys or a band like Boys Night Out?

PK: Well, that's just it—they limit the choice of what people can listen to. It's an exposure thing. Boys Night Out could have been a huge hit, but their last album was more of a darker piece of art than the radio-friendly album mainstream media looks for.

M: I saw Boys Night Out in a local club this summer and there was like 40 people there—tonight there will be thousands of people watching you.

PK: Nope, those people are here to see Billy Talent. We are just lucky to be getting the exposure. It's pretty overwhelming to play a venue this size.

M: What do you think about the way MySpace has changed access to music over the last couple of years, and do you think their concept of "friends" is an authentic way to connect with the fans?

PK: It really depends how you treat it. If it's just a mailing list for form-generated e-mails to a bunch of faceless kids, then it sucks. But if you put some time and care into it, then it really helps build a relationship with the fans. Nowadays everyone has Myspace.com slash their band name, so it has really exposed new music to a much larger audience by making it easier to find. So I would say it has changed music in a good way, by bringing it to the masses.

M: Final question: Are you looking for a touring tambourine player?

PK: Definitely, but be warned, Kenny (lead singer/guitarist) is super protective of the tambourine, an instrument he loves dearly.

M: Hmmm, I think I will avoid that conflict. Well, thanks a bunch, Peter from Moneen.

PK: Hey, my pleasure.

KEVIN EHMAN PHOTO

Peter Krpan, the drummer for Moneen, said the band has started to appeal to a wider audience.

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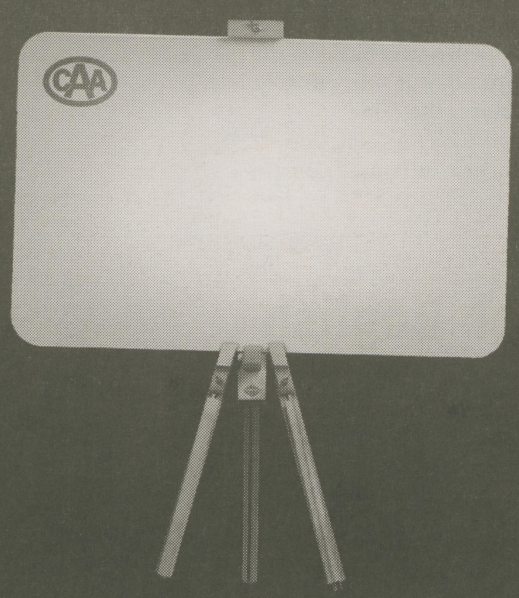

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Party art

by Kevin Ehman

I am by no means an art critic, but I am a guy who likes to have a good time, and the opening night of the-MAKE art show, which runs until Jan. 28, was certainly just that.

Held in the former offices of The Number Design Group at 625 Hillside Avenue, the opening festivities were a combination of a modern art show, an intimate concert and a somewhat restrained party.

The three-storey office space was covered entirely with numerous artists' work, requiring the viewer to take multiple laps of the venue to attempt to absorb even a fraction of the work displayed.

Featuring artists from as far away as New York and San Francisco, the main focus was on local work from people such as Luke Ramsey, Hank Pine and Noah Becker, artists who have organized and supported the local scene for years.

Most of the works displayed are conceptual and modern, diametrically opposing the current baroque exhibition at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria.

Lucky Bar mainstay DJ Longshanks provided the soundtrack for the evening, which culminated in a performance by Halifax MC Buck 65, who rocked the crowd for a solid half hour.

It was perhaps the most unlikely, yet appropriate, venue for a left-field hip-hop concert.

"I would do this every day if I could pay the bills with it," said the performer.

After the show, Longshanks returned to the decks to spin dance tunes, which I gyrated to with about seven others—clearly we were the art show diehards (thanks, flask of Jimmy Beam).

After spilling out into the industrial area where the studio is located, I thought to myself, "Now this is what an art show should be."

MARK GUTKNECHT PHOTO

Halifax's Buck 65 at theMAKE.

Raw Talent

by Brandon DeLyzer

Anger was juxtaposed with affection at the Billy Talent tour kick-off show on Jan. 18.

"This is going to be the best fucking show this year in Canada," shouted Rise Against's lead singer/guitarist, Tim McIlrath. He was probably right.

McIlrath treated everyone to a special acoustic performance outside the front entrance of the Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre before the show.

"Thank you for waiting in the rain," he shouted. It was more than worth it to hear the romantic ballad "Swing Life Away."

Sadly, a lot of people were fashionably late for the show's 7 p.m. start. When opening band Moneen took the stage, they played to only a third of the arena. Hiring a mysterious keyboardist and guitarist guest to help fill out the epic sound of their new album, *The Red Tree*, the Brampton, Ontario quartet nailed their set.

"It's our job to get you guys excited," yelled lead singer Kenny Bridges. That's exactly what they did. Refusing to stay still, Moneen stimulated the crowd with tremolo picking, piano melodies and flashes of manic noise.

Pittsburgh's Anti-Flag, the most politically outspoken of the bands, wasted no time preaching their ideals and grievances to the crowd, which was finally starting to fill out.

"How many of you hate war?" bassist/vocalist Chris Barker asked the crowd, despite the predictability of the answer. "If you hate war, I want you to give the peace sign." With the exception of a few annoyed fans, including myself, who just wanted to hear the music, everyone formed the classic V with their middle and index fingers.

"I have two words for you: circle pit," said Barker. The floor crowd of about 1,000 people began to form the nasty mosh pit.

"Regardless of the colour of your skin, [whether you're] gay, straight, male or female, take care of one another and treat each other with respect, said Anti-Flag's guitarist/vocalist, Justin Sane. "If someone falls down, you pick them up. Let's have fun." And with those words, a mass of bodies flew at each other in celebration.

Chicago's Rise Against is best enjoyed live. Much like Anti-Flag, the music is ideal for the raw energy of large concert venues.

"Pump your fists with me," shouted McIlrath as Rise Against launched into the self-doubt anthem "Ready To Fall." It was followed by the start-stop energy of "Prayer of the Refugee." As Warped Tour veterans, it was no surprise that they managed to stay in control of their set despite bothersome sound problems.

The headlining band, Billy Talent, had a few tough acts to follow. Before the show, I sat down with guitarist Ian D'Sa and drummer Aaron Solowoniuk. Pressed for time on a busy first day of touring, the boys took turns answering questions as they scarfed down grilled cheese sandwiches. "You want one?" asked Solowoniuk.

Back from their European tour, the guys were thankful to be eating Canadian food again.

"When you spend three weeks in Germany, you just can't wait to go home [and] order some Tim Hortons," said Solowoniuk.

Like many Canadian rock stars these days, Billy Talent has been highly involved in the global community. The band has played fundraisers for Amnesty International and recently recorded John Lennon's "Cold Turkey" to support the International AIDS benefit.

After Solowoniuk was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, he began working with the MS Society of Canada. He'd been diagnosed long before Billy Talent made it big, but it wasn't until recently that he went public with the information.

"It's been something I've [been] working at for about a year now," said Solowoniuk. "Warner Music Canada has helped me as well to set up a scholarship program for youth who are affected by MS. Hopefully it gives them the push to not focus on MS and focus on school instead."

The band isn't afraid to share their personal lives or voice their opinions in their songwriting.

"'Fallen Leaves' is actually about two of our best friends from high school," says D'Sa. "They packed their bags and went to Vancouver to find themselves and eventually got hooked on heroin and were living on the streets."

D'Sa believes a lot of bands don't look inside themselves and don't talk abut taboo subjects, like Billy Talent did in "A Devil In A Midnight Mass," a song about a priest who was convicted of molesting kids.

"Nobody wants to talk about that stuff, and sometimes when people actually discover what the song's about, they go 'hey, I can't believe I like this' and think it's an attack on priests, but it's not," said D'Sa. "It's just one incident. Those lyrical things make us different than a lot of bands."

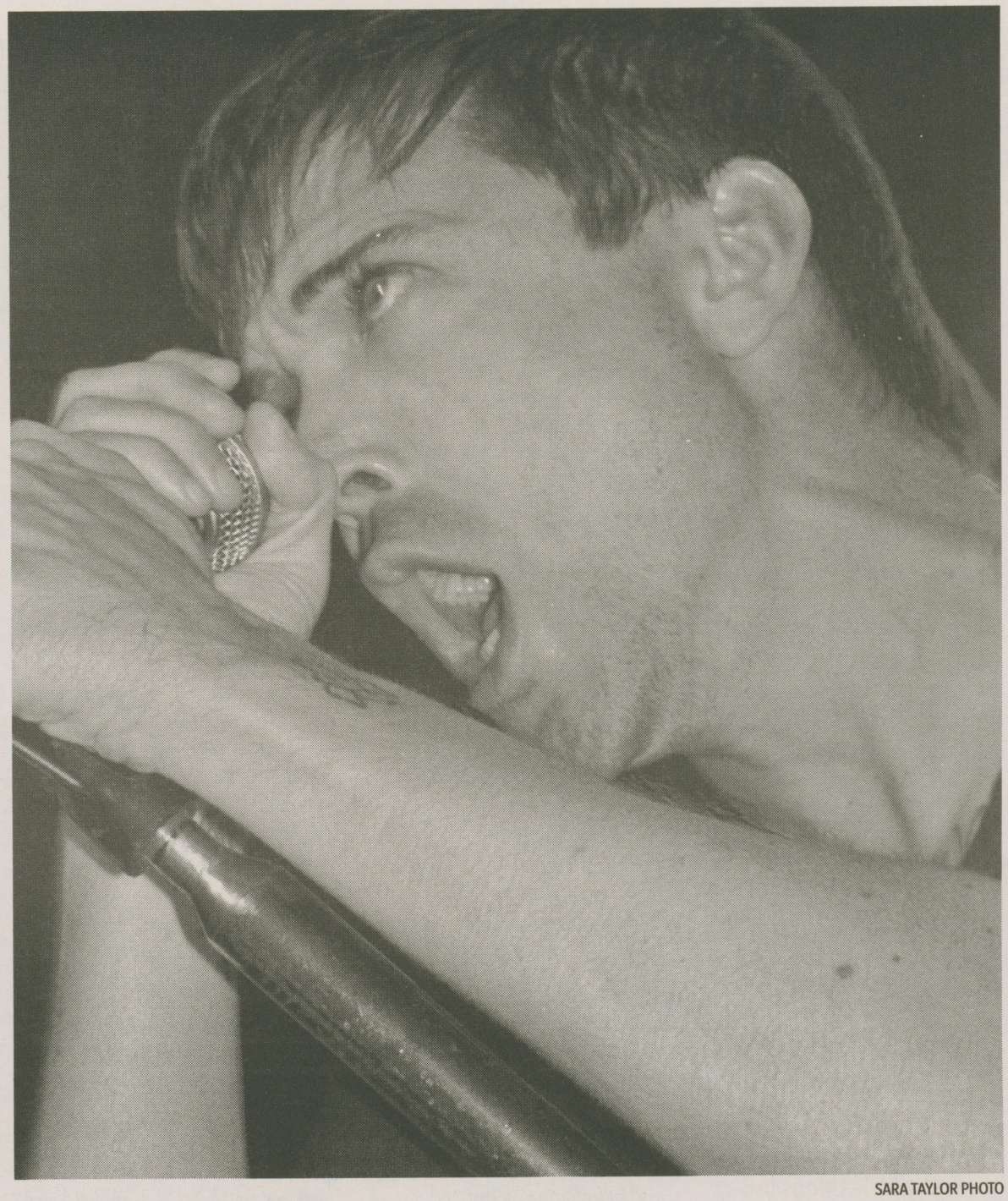
After a short discussion about D'Sa's Johnny Bravo hairstyle, the guys had to run to their next interview.

"Enjoy the show," said D'Sa, taking one last bite of grilled cheese. "The light show will be awesome."

Brimming with confidence, Billy Talent played an energetic 80-minute set that included all the old singles along with the new, and by the seventh song, half of the quartet was topless.

"Stephen Harper is an evil man," said singer Benjamin Kowalewicz before launching into the band's first ever single, "Try Honesty."

The light show turned out to be boring, but who cares? With ear-popping decibel levels, crowd surfing and brash comments against war, exploitation in advertisement and evil right-wing government pigs, there wasn't much more for a punk fan to ask for.



SARA TAYLOR PHOTO

Billy Talent said the band is set apart by their lyrics' subject matter and emotion.

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UBC maintains first place after split with Vikes

UVic still one win behind Pacific Division rivals in the race for home advantage in playoffs

by Wayne Potoroka

The UVic men's basketball team suffered a setback in their pursuit of the Pacific Division crown and home-court advantage in the playoffs. The Vikes exchanged wins with the UBC T-Birds in the McKinnon Gym on Jan. 19 and 20.

The result is good considering their opponent, but for the second-place Vikes it also means losing the season series to their rival, as well as the tiebreaker if they end up all square at year's end.

"From a standings point of view, it's not a good result from us," said Vikes coach Craig Beaucamp. "We don't control our own destiny right now, and that makes it difficult."

UVic started well on Jan. 19 with an 89-78 win in a game where they never trailed, thanks in part to a 27-4 run midway through the first frame.

"They made plays in the first half and we didn't," said Canadian Interuniversity Sport second-leading scorer, T-Bird Casey Archibald. "That was the difference."

UBC pulled within one point late in the second half, but the mini-comeback only served to inspire the Vikes, who were beginning to look complacent.

"We started to play anxious, a bit tentative and watching the clock, said Beaucamp. "It almost came to the point when I thought it would be better if we went down again, so we'd stop watching the clock and get playing again."

Vike Josh Whyte finished just shy of a triple-double with 23 points, 9 assists and 7 boards, while Brandon Ellis led all scorers with 26 points. Forward Graeme Bollinger was a perfect 5-for-5 from the floor with six rebounds—a tough task against a tall UBC team.

"I'm undersized in the post a little bit," said Bollinger, "so with guys like that, you have to take it right at them, don't let them block your shot and go right up under their chin."

The game ended with UBC playing chase-and-slap for the last three minutes and hoping for turnovers from missed UVic bonus free throws. It was a sensible strategy, but Ellis, the Vike on the receiving end of most UBC smacks, was automatic from the line.

"I wanted the ball," said Ellis, who finished 14 of 15 at the stripe, "because I knew I was going to hit the free throws."

Vikes' offence sputters

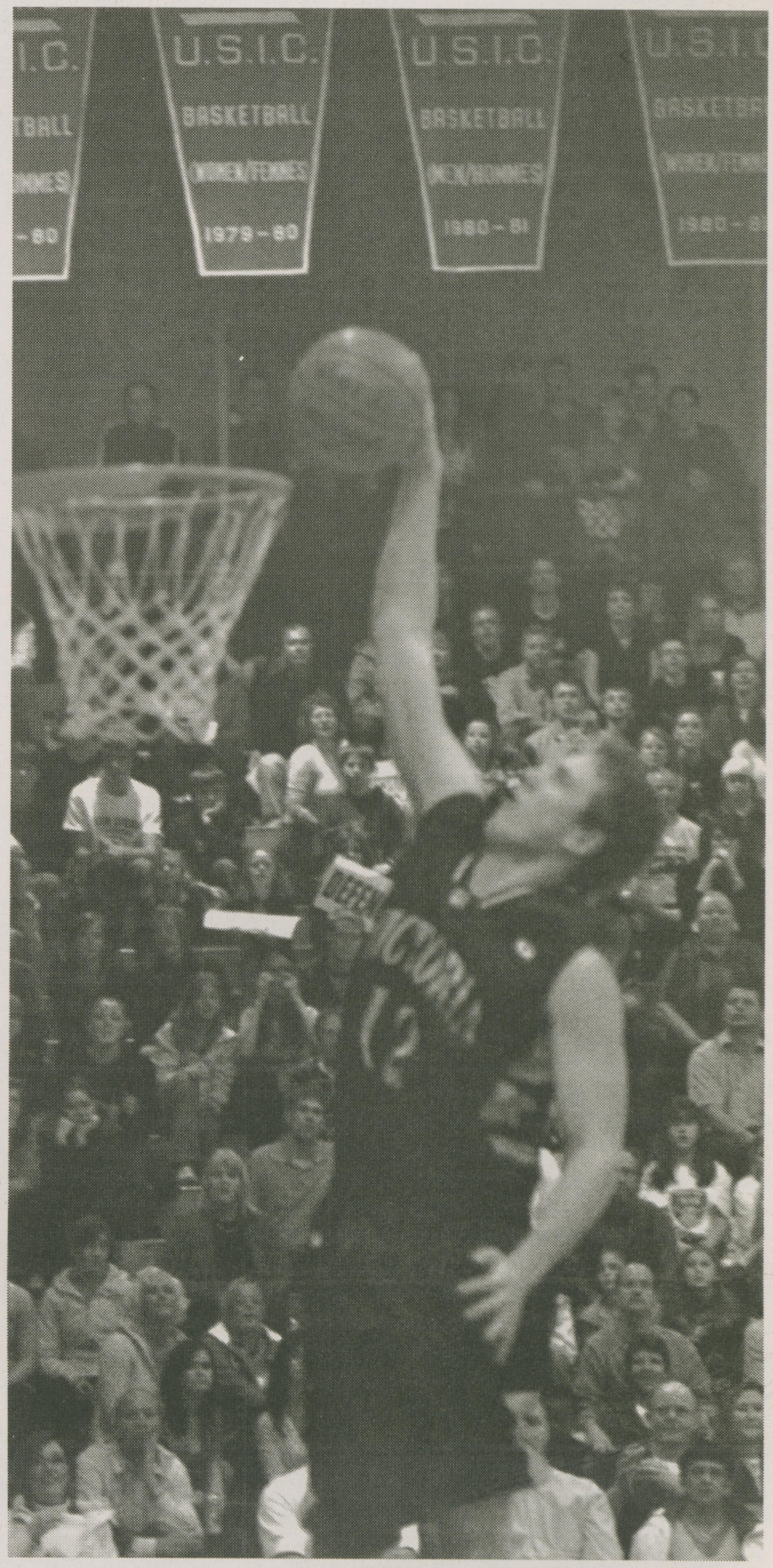
UVic started game two the same way they started the first: by shutting down the UBC offense and pestering Archibald into bad shots.

"I didn't get an open look all game," said Archibald, who finished with 20 points, three below his average. "That's a credit to them.... They're a defensive team and that's what they do."

However, UVic struggled on offence, with 16 turnovers. Even another stellar performance and 25 points from Whyte wasn't enough to lift the Vikes as they lost 83-70.

"You're never happy when you lose to UBC," said Beaucamp. "What's most important is that we get better as a team irregardless if we're first, second, third or fourth."

The 14-3 Vikes take on the 9-9 SFU Clan on Jan. 26 and 27 at Ken and Kathy Shields Court in McKinnon Gym.



JOSH THOMPSON PHOTO

UVic forward Jacob Doerksen goes for a dunk against the UBC Thunderbirds in Saturday night's action. Despite scoring 14 points for his team, the Vikes lost to the Thunderbirds 83-70. Had UVic won, they would have surpassed UBC for the top spot in the Canada West Pacific Division.

UVIC Scoreboard!

Women's Basketball

Jan. 20 UBC 71 UVic 58
Jan. 19 UBC 71 UVic 56

Men's Basketball

Jan. 20 UBC 83 UVic 72
Jan. 19 UVic 89 UBC 78

Women's Field Hockey

Jan. 21 UVic 4 Vancouver 3
Jan. 21 UVic 6 Victoria 1
Jan. 20 Vancouver 3 UVic 2
Jan. 20 UVic 4 UBC 2
Jan. 20 UVic 6 Cowichan 0

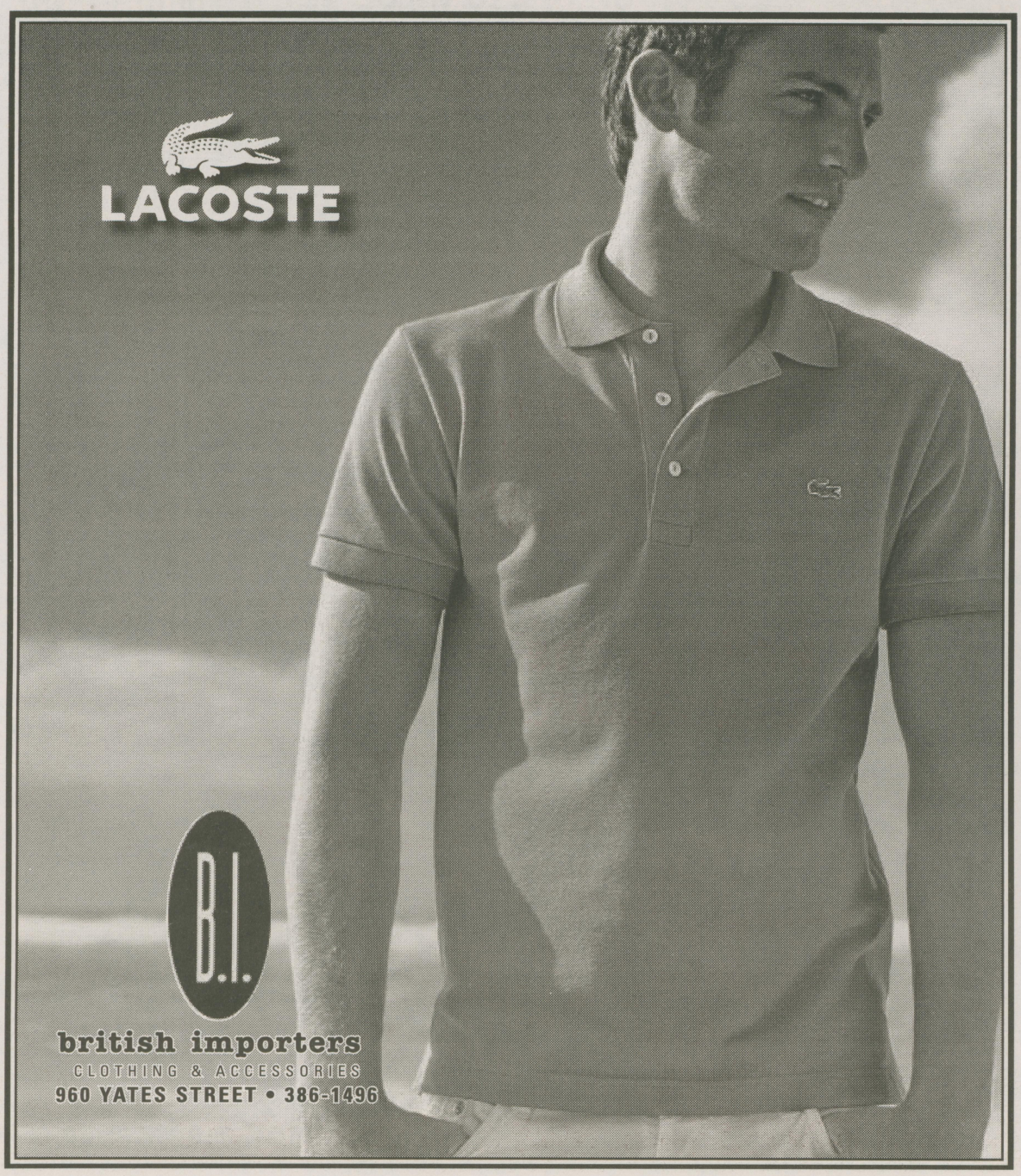
Men's Field Hockey

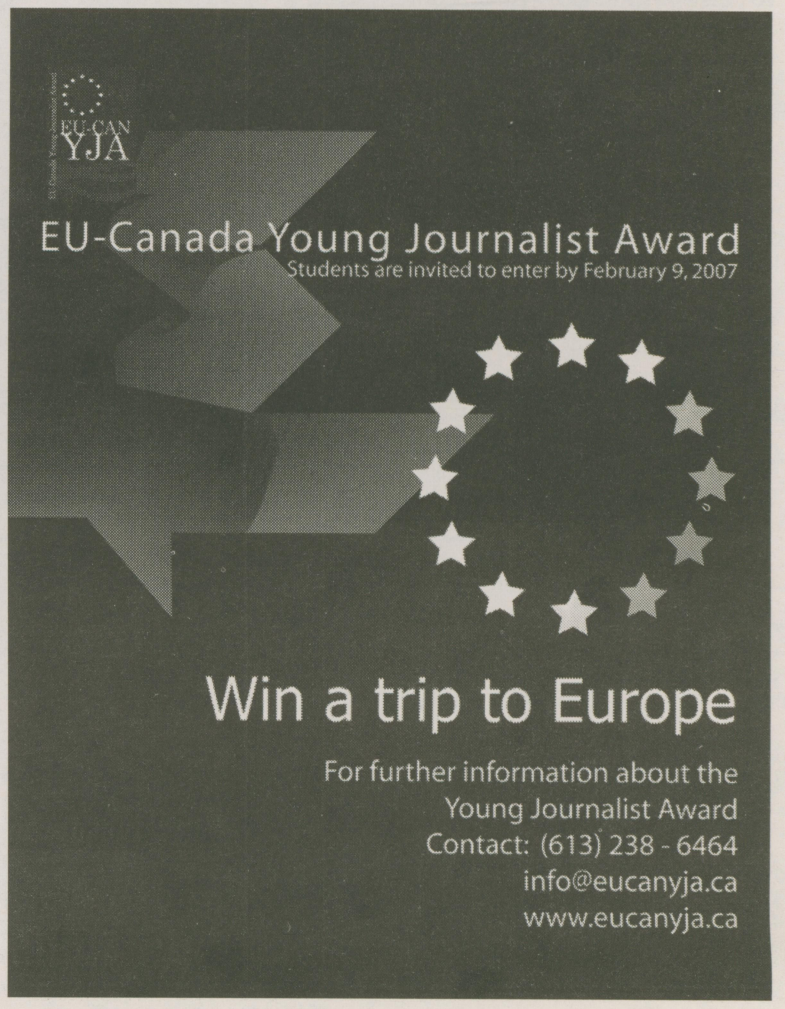
Jan. 21 UBC 10 UVic 0

JOCK TALK

"You're just so focused on putting one foot in front of the other that you don't worry about the little things in your life. Nothing else matters."

- Ultra-marathoner Rob MacKay





Couple's coaching legacy honoured

by Dan Schloss

Nineties dance music blared over the PA. An old bearded fellow in a Viking hat ran around screaming like the crazy cat lady from *The Simpsons,* coaxing fans to their feet.

Hundreds of fans stood cheering and clapping, waving signs and banners. Photographers surrounded the court.

That's how the procession to honour former Vikes basketball coaches Kathy and Ken Shields began on Jan. 20. Former and current Vikes and the Shields family were brought onto the court for the McKinnon Gym basketball court's christening as the Ken and Kathy Shields Court. The event took place before the men's basketball team took on UBC.

Kathy, the Vikes women's basketball coach for 21 seasons, led her teams to 320 wins with a mere 50 losses. She won eight national championships and was named Coach of the Year on three occasions before retiring in 2001.

Her husband, Ken, coached the men to an unprecedented seven straight national championships in 14 years, earning four Coach of the Year awards.

In 35 combined years of coaching, the couple went undefeated for 21 seasons on home court and finished with a combined total of 281 wins and 19 losses at home.

After both coaches made thank-you speeches, the ceremony ended with the unveiling of the newly painted centre court and the raising of a commemorative banner.

"[Ken] is one of the most intense men I've ever known," said Vikes basketball great Eli Pasquale after the ceremony. "His competitiveness brought the greatness out of us as players. We always felt we were the most prepared team in championship games."

"To be on the court and in the lights with him again was an honor ... you can feel by the tingle in your stomach just how special this is."

But Ken downplayed the importance of his job.

"The real people who gave all the sweat and the work were the players. We see our names there representing them."

Ken's fondest memories were being around his players on game day.

"I loved the tension in the locker-room before a big game. Where everyone is focused, and, quietly, everybody's getting ready to go to battle, that's what I relished the most," he said.

Joanna Holdsworth, who played for Kathy from 1996 to 2001, said that her coach was very personable. "Besides the lessons of hard work and excellence that we learned on the court, it's certainly the relationships that she developed and maintains with us [that made an impact]," Holdsworth said.

The ceremony brought back memories for Kathy. "As time goes on, the wins and losses all fade off somewhere," said Kathy. "The players are what it's all about. That's what I really miss."

"It was just a wonderful time in both of our lives, and for us to be able to do it together was very special ... almost a fairy tale come true."

JOSH THOMPSON PHOTO

Ken and Kathy Shields's legacies were honoured on Jan. 20 with the renaming of a basketball court.

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Campus/Community Radio 101.9 FM

TOP TEN

FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 22TH

* means Canadian artist. † means local artist.

1. VARIOUS *
   Snowed In: A Tribute To Hank Snow (CJSR)
2. THE POSTMARKS
   The Postmarks (Unfiltered)
3. THE OCTOPUS PROJECT & BLACK MOTH SUPER RAINBOW
   The House Of Apples and Eyeballs (Graveface)
4. AWAY RI'O †
   All Things Shining (Aaargh)
5. VARIOUS
   The Art Of Field Recording (Dust To Digital)
6. THE SHINS
   Wincing The Night Away (Sub Pop)
7. VARIOUS *
   Killed By Canada (FOBP)
8. VARIOUS *
   You and Yours (Burnt Oak)
9. GHOSTFACE KILLAH
   More Fish (Def Jam)
10. ISOBEL CAMPBELL
    Milkwhite Sheets (V2)

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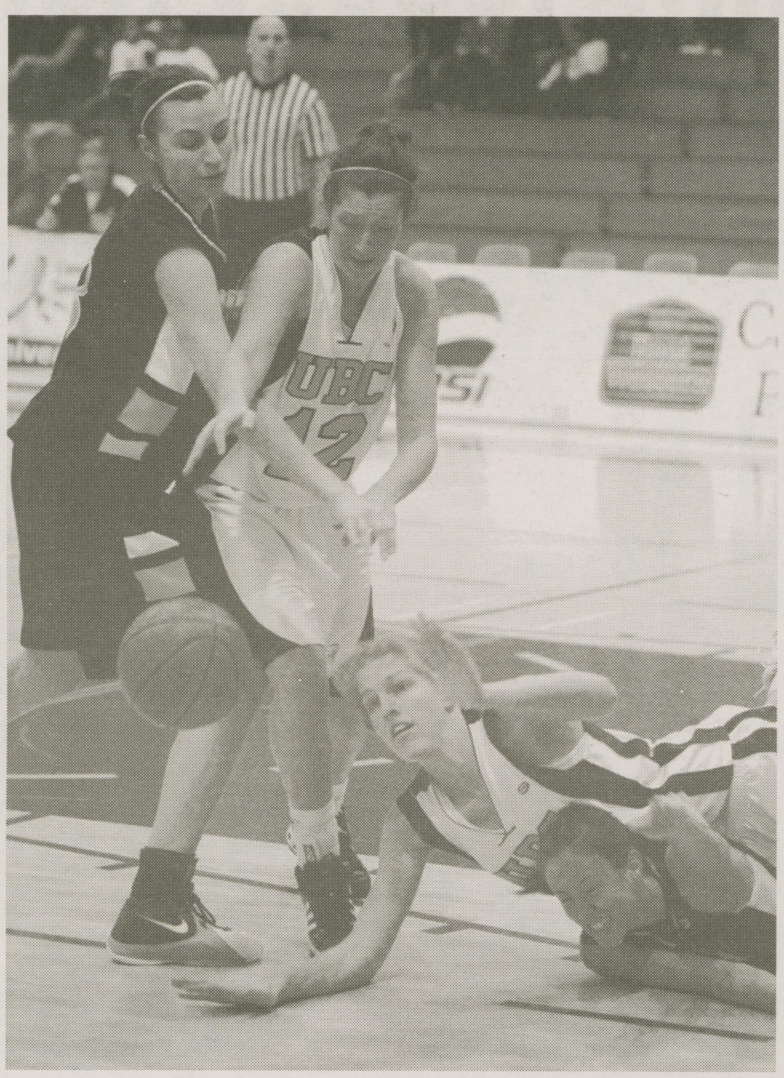
Hatfield-less Vikes lose to T-Birds

by Dan Schloss



JOSH THOMPSON PHOTO

A crowd of players fights for the ball in a Vikes loss on Jan. 20.

What is the key to defeating the second-best university women's basketball team in all of Canada? Come out healthy, hard and motivated.

But UVic wasn't fully healthy when they hosted the UBC T-Birds on Jan. 20—they were missing Janet Hatfield, arguably their most valuable player. They also didn't come out hard and motivated, and they played catch-up the whole night as a result.

The T-Birds beat the Vikes 71-58. UBC also trounced UVic the night before with a score of 71-56.

UBC veteran Kelsey Blair, with her deadly court vision, dominated in the paint with nobody capable of containing her. She finished with six boards, 11 points and seven assists.

The Vikes struggled to solve the collapsing zone defence of the T-Birds and continuously turned over the ball. Hatfield's presence was sorely missed, with the Vikes only grabbing six of 19 rebounds in the first half.

"We need to act like we're down by 20 and there's two minutes left right from the beginning," said Vikes sharpshooter Marin McCue.

Since they were losing by 14 at the half, it appeared that UVic was in for an epic whupping.

Not this Vikes squad, though. Vanessa Forstbauer sparked the Vikes and their fans two minutes into the second half with a giant rejection of a UBC layup. It also proved to be the turning point for the Vikes.

Veteran Ashley Kimmett, who injured an ankle late in the first half, returned midway through the third quarter and dominated offensively with a team high of 16 points and five boards.

But the T-Birds proved to be too much, with Victoria native Cait Haggarty providing clutch leadership and playing tough defence in her own end. All-star T-Bird Erica McGuinness quietly racked up a game high of 17 points while Blair created space and opportunities for her less-acclaimed teammates.

The Vikes are now in a dogfight to make the Canada West playoffs, but rookie Jane Anholt said their biggest competition isn't the other teams.

"We beat ourselves. Nobody beats us," she said with youthful exuberance. "We played probably the number one team in the country and we know that we can compete with them."

AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

UVic synchronized swimmers perform at a water show.

Sister Act takes to water

by Deborah Daudin

Teamwork, dancing and creativity came together for a great spectacle when UVic's synchronized swimming club presented a water show.

The event happened on Jan. 20 in McKinnon Pool and included special guests from Pacific Sport Synchro.

The pool's bleachers held a full crowd for the performance, which gave the team a chance to practise their routine in public. The crowd, largely made up of team members' families, friends and club fans, cheered the girls on from poolside as they watched the program's four routines.

Pacific Sport Synchro began with a trio performance that started well, but a lack of synchronicity prevailed throughout the routine.

The duet that followed, performed by Nina Makuch and Natasha Ridenour from UVic, was an upbeat choreography performed to African drumming music.

The well-rehearsed performance was enhanced by the music, and it was easy to imagine the team on a hunt or being chased through the jungle.

Pacific Sport Synchro's second routine, performed by the same three swimmers, was much more successful than their first attempt. Even though they were missing two of their five team members, the trio managed to execute the patterns and figures of the routine as if they were all there, possessing good control and a range of skills.

But the real showstopper was UVic's team performance, the last routine of the afternoon. The eight women are proud of their work, which according to team member Joelle Prevost now just needs some "fine tuning."

The routine, which they refer to as a fun rendition of *Sister Act*, is a well-executed water ballet.

The team has worked on the timing of the cadences. Their pattern formations were clear and all the fixed figures that must be included in a technical routine (such as egg beaters, reverse combined spins, lifts and thrusts) were performed with endlessly smiling faces.

The UVic synchro club has been practising for months in preparation for the upcoming national competition.

Next month, UVic will travel to Waterloo, Ont. to compete in the Canadian University Synchronized Swimming League.

Men's field hockey team destroyed in huge loss to UBC

by Kim Armstrong

The Vikes' men's field hockey team took a beating from UBC on Jan. 20, losing a whopping 10-0 at home.

UBC goalie Dave Carter spent a very lonely game watching his teammates own the ball in UVic's half of the field.

"This was our first game back from a tour in Barcelona, Spain," said UBC's Anthony Wright. "We definitely still had it in our legs and came out firing."

Vikes coach Alan Williams yelled encouragement from the sidelines, but each UBC goal left him wincing just a little harder. Near the end of the second half, he dropped to a despairing crouch with his head in his hands.

"Ten-nothing is a bad score, but it's part of our growth," said Williams. "This season hasn't really been about results—it's [been] about development of us as a squad."

Most of the starting lineup is new to the roster, and the team is playing its first season in the premier division up, promoted from the first division. So it's understandable that facing a top-ranked team like UBC presents a challenge.

"When we play a team like UBC that's got national team players on the bench, they can have substitutes [that are] national team players," said Williams. "There's just a big gap. UBC is undefeated. They're the top team in the league, and they showed it."

UVic goalie Jonathan Plumley, a rookie from Vancouver, had to face a near-constant onslaught from UBC. Despite the final score, Williams said Plumley performed well.

"The first goal was about the only one I thought he really should have," he said. "Other than that, their drag flicks, like their short corner goals, are really tough to stop."

One positive for UVic was defender Kevin Snider, who played well his entire time on the field.

"[He] was probably our most consistent," said Williams. "We had people who had moments where they were excellent, but then didn't quite keep it on for seventy minutes.... I still haven't felt we've had a complete game from each player."

UVic will be working on avoiding turnovers on defence, working to set up triangles to facilitate passing as they work down the field and staying compact both when they're onside and when the other team has the ball.

"Basically," said Williams, "[we want to] try and use our strength, which is fitness and speed, and cover our weakness, which is individual skill at each position."

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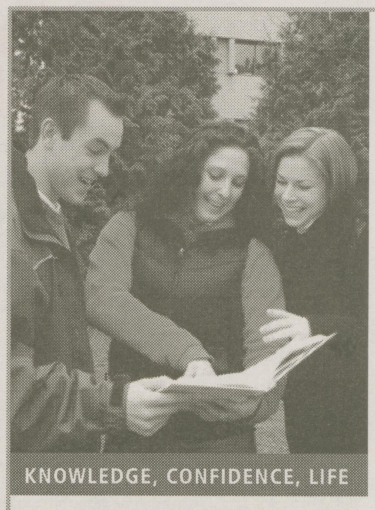

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Running the journey of a lifetime

by Hilary Agro

WILLIE LI PHOTO

Rob MacKay, who will run across the Gobi Desert, goes for a jog in UVic's Centennial Stadium.

Ever run out of breath from walking up a few flights of stairs? Try running for 250 kilometres—then talk to these guys about being tired.

Andrew Liss, Alex Sherman and Rob MacKay are three members of the UVic community who are using their passion for running to help mankind.

During the week, Rob MacKay balances fatherhood and a job as a sponsorship and marketing representative for the Vikes. The rest of the time, he's running himself ragged—literally.

MacKay is an ultra-marathoner. While normal marathons are up to 42.2 kilometres, ultra-marathoners take long-distance running to a very different level.

"Ultra-marathons are usually multi-stage races," said MacKay. "You'll run for three [to] seven days and sleep at checkpoints every night." Since 2001, MacKay has run in 13 ultra-marathons—over 1,000 kilometres in total. It took MacKay quite a few triathlons and marathons to discover his true calling.

"I did a 55-kilometre race and finished really well," he said. "From then on, I realized that I had this weird tolerance for pain. I can hang in there for a long time."

That's an understatement. MacKay is currently training for one of the most intense ultra-marathons in the world, the Gobi March. It's a 250-kilometre team foot race through the Gobi Desert in China and consists of six stages in seven days. Competitors must be fully self-reliant, carrying all their own food, gear and clothing.

"Long days in the sun, temperatures getting up to 53 degrees. You're burning about 5,000 calories a day with an intake of 1,000, sleeping in the desert in sandstorms," he recalled of the Marathon des Sables in Morocco. "But it absolutely comes down to your will to finish."

MacKay says that ultra-marathons have far more of a mental impact than a physical one. "You're barely eating for eight hours at a time—you're exhausted in every way possible," said MacKay. "But you're just so focused on putting one foot in front of the other that you don't worry about the little things in your life. Nothing else matters. It's provided me with a lot of clarity."

Team Gobi Canada, which MacKay captains, has little outside funding for the upcoming race, despite the fact that they're running for the Breast Cancer Foundation. The three-person team has paid the $3,800-per-person entry fee and is working hard on fundraising. They have been putting on slideshows to raise money, explained MacKay, whose mother and grandmother are breast cancer survivors.

Ultra-marathons have helped MacKay grow as a person in more than muscle size.

"You will be humbled at some point in that race," he said. "You will be strung out, and it's the faith that you'll come out of that and rise up that you get perspective from."

Two UVic students are also planning to run the Gobi March for charity.

Best friends Andrew Liss and Alex Sherman grew up together in Toronto. They came to Victoria together and they're still living together, only now their lives have taken a more unusual turn. They've decided to run the Gobi March in an effort to raise money and awareness for HIV in Africa.

"We want to educate people on HIV. We want them to educate themselves and their friends," said Liss, a second-year history student.

The two students have had to drastically change their lifestyles to prepare for the race. "We have a trainer we meet with once a week, and we're on a strict schedule for daily exercise," said Liss.

Sherman, a third-year humanities student, has been running hills for strength and long distances for endurance with Liss.

"We also had to clean up our diets and tailor the partying that goes along with university life," said Liss. "It's definitely a challenge, but that's the whole point of the event."

One of their goals is to raise $1 million for the Stephen Lewis Foundation over the next three years.

"We're paying for every aspect of the trip, and every penny we raise goes directly to the foundation," Liss said.

When he heard about the Gobi March in December, Liss was immediately intrigued.

"I signed up, but I got an e-mail saying I was too young," he remembered. "But I begged and pleaded, and after many weeks of waiting and suspense, they agreed."

When asked if he felt they would be ready in time for June, Liss was positive.

"I feel confident that I could complete the run at this time, but I want to do as much training as we can, whatever will buy us more minutes."

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www.zenwest.ca

The Environmental Law Club has many upcoming events in October and throughout the year. Please visit www.elc.uvic.ca/club for details on speakers, activities and campaigns as they become available. Thank you. rachelsqf@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARTY FROM POLE TO POLE
Friday, February 2. Doors open at 9 p.m. @ Red Jacket, 751 View St. Fundraiser for youth leadership program. $5 for tickets in advance call 884-4457 or go to Clearihue Room D228c.

LIVE IMPROV COMEDY
"Throw Us A Line Improv"
Wednesdays 8:30 Soprano's Karaoke Bar. NO COVER.

WIN great prizes by donating $10 or more online to the United Way. Check out http://unitedway.uvic.ca to learn more about how you can help those who need it most.

WISE WOMEN'S WELLNESS SESSIONS Are you interested in developing new communication skills, gaining confidence and connecting with other women? Every Tuesday 1:15 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. until April 24, Call 363-2640 for more info.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Food Not Bombs serves free vegan food every Sunday at Vancouver and Pandora, under the big sequioa tree. Call 383-5144 x1940 for kitchen locations

Notice to students in Education, Geography or Biology: Excellent volunteer opportunities at Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary. For more details e-mail Joan at: volunteer@swanlake.bc.ca

Hey! Why aren't ya volunteering with Uvic Pride already? Come be our social coordinator! Or something! uvicpride@uvss.uvic.ca Queers, Trans, Intersex and Allies... SUB B118

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Love my brown-eyed lover!

Hey you, thanks for the push out of my driveway last snowy Wednesday. I owe you a coffee! Leave a note on my red Honda if you wanna take me up on that offer. You know where I live.

Mmmm, plankton. Delightful.

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Businesses: $6/line
Non-students: $2/line
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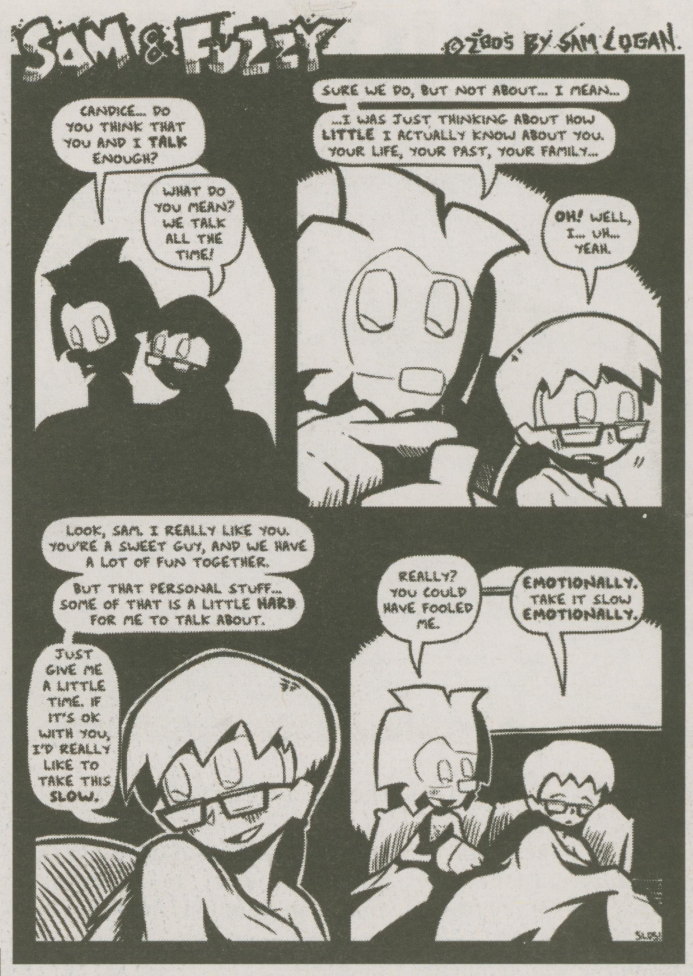
SAM & FUZZY
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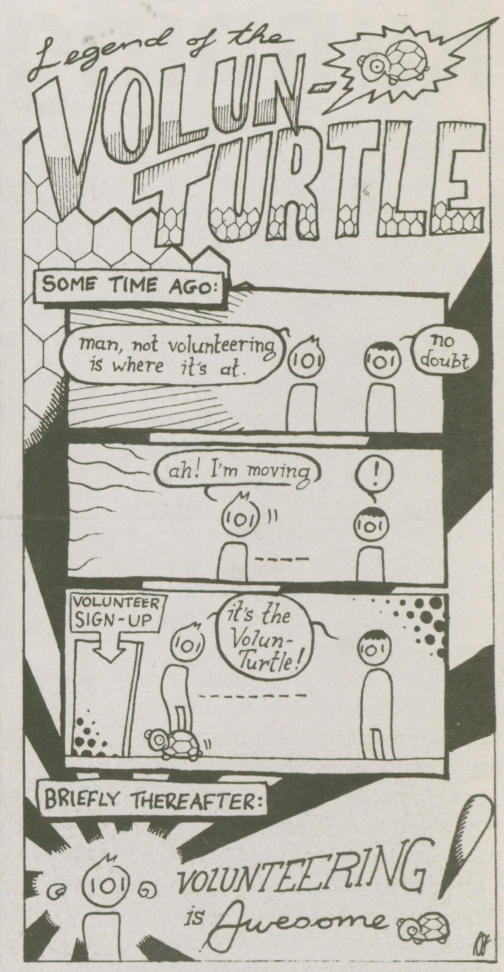
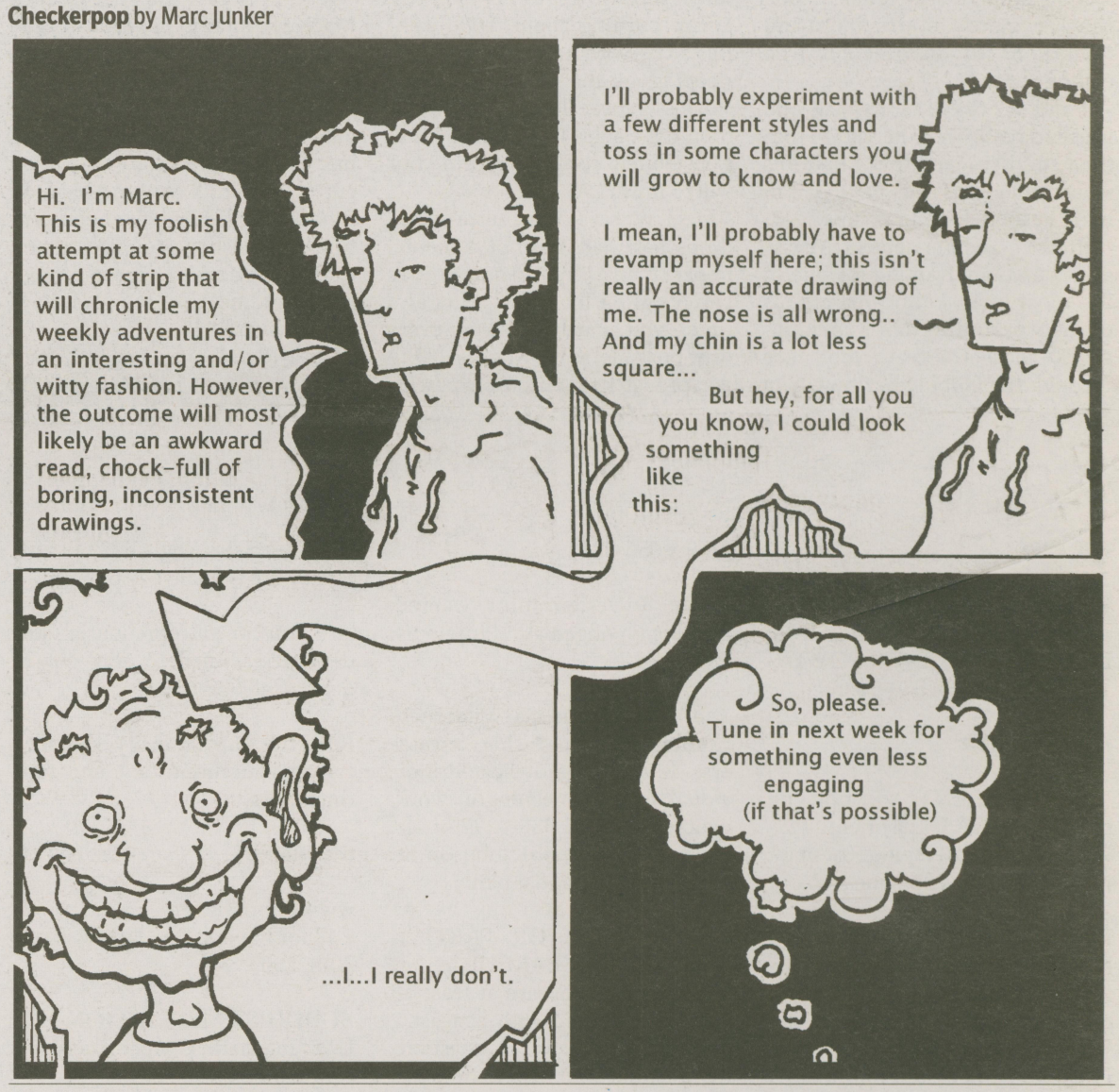
CANDICE... DO YOU THINK THAT YOU AND I TALK ENOUGH?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WE TALK ALL THE TIME!
SURE WE DO, BUT NOT ABOUT... I MEAN...
...I WAS JUST THINKING ABOUT HOW LITTLE I ACTUALLY KNOW ABOUT YOU. YOUR LIFE, YOUR PAST, YOUR FAMILY...
OH! WELL, I... UH... YEAH.
LOOK, SAM. I REALLY LIKE YOU. YOU'RE A SWEET GUY, AND WE HAVE A LOT OF FUN TOGETHER.
BUT THAT PERSONAL STUFF... SOME OF THAT IS A LITTLE HARD FOR ME TO TALK ABOUT.
JUST GIVE ME A LITTLE TIME. IF IT'S OK WITH YOU, I'D REALLY LIKE TO TAKE THIS SLOW.
REALLY? YOU COULD HAVE FOOLED ME.
EMOTIONALLY. TAKE IT SLOW EMOTIONALLY.



Checkerpop by Marc Junker


Hi. I'm Marc. This is my foolish attempt at some kind of strip that will chronicle my weekly adventures in an interesting and/or witty fashion. However, the outcome will most likely be an awkward read, chock-full of boring, inconsistent drawings.
I'll probably experiment with a few different styles and toss in some characters you will grow to know and love.
I mean, I'll probably have to revamp myself here; this isn't really an accurate drawing of me. The nose is all wrong.. And my chin is a lot less square...
But hey, for all you you know, I could look something like this:
...I...I really don't.
So, please. Tune in next week for something even less engaging (if that's possible)

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MARTLET

Photo Contest!

This year's theme is love. Love can be many things: romance, lust, friendship, affection, platonic, heartbreaking, or dull. But what image is love? That's up to you.

Enter the 3rd annual Martlet Cover Photo Contest and see your picture on the cover of the Martlet and win $100! Runner-up entries will be published in the Features section.

We suggest that you crop the picture yourself, to the ratio of 10 inches wide by 13 inches high at a minimum resolution of 150 pixels per inch.

For submission guidelines and photo tips, e-mail feats@martlet.ca or stop by the Martlet office in SUB B011. Photos can be e-mailed as well as dropped off at the office.

The contest is open to current undergrad and graduate students. Contest deadline is Thursday, January 31 at 5p.m.